

**BRIEF PROFILE OF ARCHBISHOP DR. RUFUS OKIKIOLAOLU OSITELU**



CONFIDENTIAL

His Eminence, the Most Reverend Dr. Rufus OkikiolaoluOlubiyi OSITELU (Ph.D. Comp. Sc.; Ph.D. Religion) is the Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Arch-Province of Nigeria, and the incumbent and the Fourth Primate of "The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide" organization.

Archbishop Dr. Rufus OkikiolaoluOlubiyiOsitelu is the son of late Prophet General Dr. Josiah OlunowoOsitelu [first Primate and Founder of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide], and Archbishop (Mrs.) Susannah AdewunmiOsitelu, popularly called "Mama Aladura or Mama Kekere".

He was born on the 24th February 1952 in Ogere-Remo, Ogun State in Nigeria.

He started his primary school education at Christ Church School (Anglican), Ogere in 1958. After the successful completion of the Primary School Leaving Certificate course in 1964, he attended the Institute of Professional Studies, Apata-Ganga, Ibadan in 1965. From 1966 through 1970, he attended the Prospect High School, Abanla, Ibadan where he successfully completed the West African School Certificate (WASC) examination.

After working with Nigerian Bottling Company Limited (now PLC) from 1971 to 1974, he left Nigeria for Germany to study in Europe and the United States of America. He commenced his professional studies (Data Processing) at Control Data Institute, Frankfurt am Main in 1974.

He completed the Diploma courses with flying colours as the best student in both Computer Technology and Systems Analysis and Design.

From 1976 to 1979, Rufus Ositelu thereafter undertook further studies at the Institute of Data Processing Management from in the United Kingdom. From 1980 to 1981, he worked as a Data

Processing Practitioner with System-Haus GmbH, Waldacker, Germany. From 1982 to 1983, he attended the Institute of Economics (Wirtschaftsfachschule), Darmstadt in Germany.

From 1983 through 1986, he further went on a combined Master's and Doctorate's programme in Computer Science at the Department of Engineering of the Western-Kennedy University, Agoura-Hills. This programme, he successfully completed with a dissertation titled: "Resystemization Life-Cycle – Computer Economics," which earned him his Ph.D. in Computer Science.

In 1991, he undertook the Pastoral Studies course with the University of Hagen in Germany.

In 1993, he pioneered the first branch of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide in Germany and was ordained a Reverend same year. He saw to it that The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide was formally established and registered in Germany in 1994.

From 1993 through 1996, he undertook a Bachelor of Theology course at Covington Theological Seminary, Rossville in the United States of America. On successful completion, he was awarded the B.Th. degree.

From 1997 to 2000, he further took a Doctorate degree programme at the same institution, and this programme he completed also in flying colours with a dissertation titled: "African Instituted Churches". He was awarded Ph.D. in Religion following a brilliant performance.

Between 1986 and 1999, he worked in the Computer sector in diverse capacities.

**He is a prolific writer.**

He is among others, the author of “African Indigenous Churches”, first published in 1984, “Data Processing Simplified”, which was published in 1987, as well as African Instituted Churches – Growth, Spirituality and Ecumenical Understanding of African Initiated Churches”, which was published and launched in 2002. He has also submitted different papers on Computer Science and Theology, published in scholarly journals.

His Eminence, the Most Reverend Dr. Rufus OkikiolaoluOlubiyi OSITELU is the incumbent Primate of the Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide organization and a PhD holder in both Computer Science and Philosophy of Religion.

He has written several books and has presented several papers at tertiary institutions, conferences, symposia, seminars and academic journals.

#### **Books Written By ARCHBISHOP DR. RUFUS OKIKIOLAOLU OSITELU**

\* CL (A) NEWSLETTER a bi-yearly publication, (Ogere: Grace Enterprises, 2001). This is the first magazine of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide. It is now known today as “CLAW NEWS JOURNAL”, as it has become very voluminous.

\* CHALLENGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM, (Ogere: Grace Enterprises, 1999).

\* THE HANDBOOK OF LITURGY, (Ogere: Grace Enterprises, 2000).

\* OBSERVANCES AND PRACTICES of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) in the light of the OLD TESTAMENT AND NEW TESTAMENT, (Ogere: Grace Enterprises, 2000).

\* FINANCIAL REGULATIONS of THE CHURCH OF THE LORD (ALADURA) WORLDWIDE for THE MILLENNIUM, (Ogere: Grace Enterprises, 2001).

\* 2001 ENLARGED EDITION of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) ENGLISH HYMN BOOK, (Ogere: Grace Enterprises, 2001).

\* Missio Africana!, The Role of an African Instituted Church in the mission's debate", in: Partnership of African Christian Communities in Europe, held at the Millennial Conference, Westminster College Cambridge, 1999 (unpublished).

\* Aladura-Kirche – Afrikaner bei uns", Zeitschrift für Missionswissenschaft und Religionswissenschaft, 83. Jahrgang. 1999. Heft 2, EOS verlag Erzabtei St. Ottilien, 1999, Internationales Institut für Missionswissenschaftliche Forschungen e.V. Hrsg, ZMR St. Ottilien, 1999, pp 169-176.

\* Die Mission der afrikanischen etablierten Kirchen in Deutschland und anderswo", Werkstattgespräch zur Bedeutung der afrikanischen religiösen Diaspora in Deutschland, Missionsakademie Hamburg, 1998 (unpublished).

\* PERMANENTE DISKRIMINIERUNG", Fachtagung des Weltkirchenrat (WCC) über die: Arbeit und Erfahrungen der Ausländerbeiräte in Hessen, in: Kreisausländerbeirat Offenbach Jahresbericht 1996, KAB Offenbach Hrsg, Offenbach 1997.

\* Germany", in: Sharing The Struggles And Hopes Of African People In Europe, stories and reflections and challenges from a meeting of Africans and those of the African Diaspora, held at

the ecumenical meeting in Malaga, Spain, 1997, WCC-URM CBWCP, Hrsg, wcc-urm, 1997, pp 12-13.

\* The Church of the Lord (Aladura)“ in: KIRCHEN UND GEMEINDE ANDERER SPRACHE ODER HERKUNFT, GEP Buch, Kirchenamt der Evangelischen Kirchen in Deutschland (EKD) Hrsg, Frankfurt am Main, 1997, pp 32-34.

\* The Church of the Lord (ALADURA) Frankfurt“ in: Orientierungen und Berichte No.23, XI/1996: Neue Gemeinde in Deutschland, R. Hempelmann Hrsg, EZW, Stuttgart, 1996, pp 21-23.

\* The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Rhein-Main, Germany“, Religionen der Welt, Fachhochschulverlag Frankfurt am Main, 1996, Amt für multikulturelle Angelegenheiten der Stadt Frankfurt am Main (Hrsg.), 1996, pp 59-60

\* Migrants in Germany“, in: People’s Struggles Unheard Stories, a search for communities with justice in Europe, stories and reflections from a meeting on urban, industrial, rural mission, held at the ecumenical workshop in Frankfurt/Main, 1996, WCC-Urban Rural Mission Hrsg, wcc-urm, 1996, pp 51-53.

\* Tunde und der Gorilla“, Alexander Verlag, Langen 1984

\* Ein Vereinfachter Führer zum Informations-verarbeitungs-system“, Alexander Verlag, Langen 1984

\* African Indigenous Churches“, Alexander Verlag, Langen 1984

\* He was elevated to the rank of an Archdeacon of the Church in 1996.

He held several Management and Leadership positions during his sojourn in Europe, which unknown to him then, were used by God to prepare him for the task ahead. He was the first Chairman of the Foreigners Elected Parliament in “Kreis-Offenbach”, the Local Government Area, Offenbach in Germany.

He was the first elected African Vice President of the Hessen State Executive Council of the “Landesbeirat”, of the State Elected Foreigners Parliament also in Germany, as well as the first President of the Nigerian German Association (NGA).

At the Tabieorar Day of 22nd August 1998, he was publicly proclaimed as the fourth Primate of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide with effect from the 16th day of August 1998, according to the divine revelation to the Supreme Council of Prelates (SCP), and in circumstances pursuant to Section 7 Article XVII of the Constitution of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide, by the most senior prelate at the occasion, to the glory of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Since he became the Primate in 1998, The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide has witnessed significant, tremendous and remarkable progress:

#### **CHURCH PROGRESS BY ARCHBISHOP DR. RUFUS OKIKIOLAOLU OSITELU**

1. In his first seven years alone, over one hundred (100) new branches of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide were established.
2. As part of his familiarization efforts, Dr. R. O. Ositelu has paid pastoral visits to all the Dioceses in the Arch-Province of Nigeria as well as to all branches in Europe, the United States of America,

and in the West Africa sub-region. In the history of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide. This is the very first time a Primate has visited every branch of the Church.

3. In his determination to move the Church forward and as led by the Holy Spirit, Primate Dr. Rufus Ositelu has created five (5) new Ministries in the Church, namely:

- a) Children Ministry
- b) Teaching Ministry
- c) Social Ministry
- d) Music Ministry
- e) Drama Ministry

Similarly, the Evangelical and Youth Ministries have become very vibrant with new innovations to the glory of God, including the annual “Single Delight” among others.

4. He has established several councils and associations, including:

- a) Council of Reverends and Canons
- b) Council of Pastors
- c) Council of Evangelists
- d) Council of Deacons and Exemplary Elders (Male)
- e) Council of Deaconesses and Exemplary Elders (Female)
- f) Association of Retired Ministers



g) Association of Ministers' Children.

5. Through Divine Revelation and directive unto him during the end of year retreat on Mount Tabieorar on the 31st December 2002, The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide now since the year 2003, celebrates three (3) major spiritual events every year, namely:

a) RESTORATION Period in April

b) TABIEORAR Period in August

c) BREAKTHROUGH in December.

6. In line with his conviction about education being the greatest legacy, he started and completed the school buildings of OSITELU MEMORIAL NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL (OMNPS), Ogere.

7. He has established THE CHURCH OF THE LORD of (ALADURA) COLLEGE [TCLAC], Ogere and all Dioceses are being encouraged to establish schools.

8. He has embarked upon the establishment of the multi-campus DIVINE GRACE UNIVERSITY (DGU), also known as Aladura University.

9. Since the return of the ALADURA COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL (ACHS), Anthony-Village, Lagos by the Lagos State to the Church, he has repaired all the dilapidated structures, built new class-rooms, and equipped the school with computers and other modern equipments.

10. Similarly, the ALADURA THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE (ATI) has now been upgraded to offer graduate and post-graduate courses in Religion and Christian Education. The staff-quarter of the institute has been completed, and a new library has been built for the ATI in Ogere.

11. He has established the GRACE MEDICAL CENTRE (GMC), Ogere for the use of Ministers, Members of the Church and the general populace in and around Ogere.

12. He has secured the certificates of registration for the OMNPS, TCLAC, ACHS, and the additional members of the Board of Trustees of the Church in the Arch-Province to the glory of God.

13. He has built new Evangelical Auditorium and Store for the use of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide.

14. He has established the DIVINE GRACE BLOCK INDUSTRY (DGBI), Ogere to generate fund for The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide organization.

15. He has given the Tabieorar Complex a new and vibrant face-lift to the glory of God and joy of the faithfuls, including:

a) Media house

b) Extension of the Altar platform

c) Extension of the Message platform

d) Restructuring of the Tabieorar Ground into cubicles covered with see sand

e) Completion of the male Ministers' Tent

f) Installation of bore-hole on the Mount Tabieorar

g) Installation of many electrical poles and improvement of the illumination on the Mount Tabieorar

h) Improvement and production of quality TabieorarProgramme and Revelation booklets.

16. He started and has completed the new Primate's Office Extension to the glory of God.

17. Similarly, he has completed the new building for the GRACE GARMENT FACTORY and BUSINESS CENTRE.

18. Dr. Rufus Ositelu's Information Technology background has rubbed off positively on The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide, which now has two Websites: [www.aladura.info](http://www.aladura.info) and [www.aladura.de](http://www.aladura.de).

19. He has established a new security outfit for the Church – "Special Security Squad". The graduation of this squad took place on Saturday, 26th August 2006.

20. The establishment of the "Boys and Girls Brigade" of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide in December 2004.

21. For the very first time and to the glory of God, he led about thirty (30) adults and youths of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide to Europe to participate in a Church Jamboree.

22. His policy on giving the adequate publicity to the Church activities through the Print and Electronic Media is unprecedented, including "LENTEN TALK" for three months on Gateway Television (GTV), "IPE NDUN" (The Trumpet Sounds) for one year on Lagos Television (LTV) and "KINGDOM TALK" for over six months.

23. Other projects being embarked upon by him are housing projects in Lagos and Ogere, including:

a) Idimu Block of Flats

b) Amuwo-Odofin Block of Flats

c) Anthony-Village Auditorium

d) Ministers' Quarters

e) Etc.

In line with his believe in bringing the leadership closer to the people, coupled with numerous newly pioneered Church branches, he has created many more Dioceses, and has since inception of his administration, maintained an open door policy to the benefit of the adherents and to the glory of God.

His administration has indeed been a listening one and his watchwords remain:

a) Transparency,

b) Accountability and

c) Godliness (TAG).

Given his twenty-five (25) years sojourn in Europe and America, his calling to head The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide has been a great challenge. Until his calling to lead this Covenant Church, he worked as an Information Technology Consultant (Mainframe) with Compuware GmbH, Dreieich in Germany./p>

To his credit and all what he represents, young and dynamic graduates were and are still encouraged and motivated to come into full-time Ministry of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide organization to the glory of God.

All glory and honour be to God for empowering him to perform marvellously to the admiration of all and sundry. His total commitment to God's work has been a source of inspiration to the faithfuls of the Church both at home and abroad.

His computer background is a blessing to the Church organization as almost every department in the Primate's Office has one or more computers.

**Primate Dr. Rufus Ositelu** is a Disciplined Leader who believes in honesty, justice, prudence, fairness, hard-work, selfless service, transparency, accountability and godliness.

He practices what he preaches and the adherents of The Church of the Lord (Aladura) Worldwide appreciate his dedication and commitment to the service of God and humanity, and peace among the people of the world. His hobbies are reading and writing. He is happily married and blessed with children.

May the Almighty God continually strengthen, guide, uphold and use him more and more for His glory in Jesus name, Amen.