

An Ifá Primer

A Guide to Practicing Ifá Spiritual Science

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1. AN INTRODUCTION TO IFÁ

1.1 What is Ifá?

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In a broad sense, the *Yorùbá* noun **Ifá** refers to the traditional African system of spiritual cultivation that has been practiced in Yorùbáland, which spans southwestern and north central Nigeria, southern and central Benin, and part of Togo. Adherents of *Ifá* revere *Èlédàá* (Creator God, who is the owner of all beings), respect *òrìṣà* (ministerial agents who maintain divine order), and respect *egúngún* (honorable ancestors). Some diasporan traditions of *Ifá* are Cuban *Lucumí* (also called *Santería*), Brazilian *Candomblé*, and Brazilian *Umbanda*.

In a specific sense, the *Yorùbá* noun *Ifá* refers to **Èlà** (also called *Òrúnmìlà*), the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom. *Èlà* governs the divination practice called **Ìdáfá** (bringing forth *Èlà*) or **Ifá dídá** (*Èlà* being brought forth). *Ìdáfá* is used by adherents who have been initiated to *Èlà*. Adherents who have been initiated to some other *òrìṣà* make use of the divination practice called **Èṣẹ̀rìndílógún** (sixteen cowries). In *Lucumí* (the Cuban *Ifá* tradition), *Èṣẹ̀rìndílógún* is called *Dilogún*.

1.2 The big picture

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The *Yorùbá* noun *orí* means ‘head’, both literally and figuratively. The term *orí-bùburú* (bad headway) refers to bad luck, which is a condition in which one experiences an unusual series of unfavorable outcomes. The term *orí-rere* (good headway) refers to good luck, which is a condition in which one experiences an unusual series of favorable outcomes. The term *orí-inú* (inner head) refers to one’s disposition, which is one’s prevailing mental and emotional attitude.

The proper name *Orí* refers to Man’s godself, which is the part of Man’s being that shares in the divine attributes of omnipresence, omniscience, and omnipotence. On page 115 of his book *Ifá: An Exposition of Ifá Literary Corpus*, Ògúnwándé Abimbólá¹ states:

“The role of the gods is to aid *Orí* in leading every person to his destiny in life. Whatever a man’s *Orí* has refused to approve cannot be granted by any other god.”

Ifá says in *Ìrètẹ̀ Òfún* that:

Àwọn irúnmolẹ̀ àti Orí Èlédàá nlo s’óde Àpéré. Orí nikan dé ibẹ̀.

The *irúnmolẹ̀* (divine ministerial agents) and *Orí Èlédàá* (Man’s godself) were going to the town of Life-fulfilment. *Orí* alone arrived there.

Ñjẹ, Orí gbóná jù òrìṣà lọ. Orí nikan l’ó kó wọn l’ápéré. Kò sí òrìṣà tí ó tó ní ìgbẹ̀ lẹ̀yìn Orí eni. Orí mà gbóná jù òrìṣà lọ.

¹ Abimbólá, ‘Wándé, Oxford University Press (1976), ISBN-10: 019575199X, ISBN-13: 978-0195751994.

Therefore, *Orí* is ‘hotter’ than *òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents). It is *Orí* alone who takes them (people) to life fulfilment. There is no *òrìṣà* who is sufficient in supporting behind the back of one’s *Orí*. *Orí* is indeed ‘hotter’ than *òrìṣà*.

Ifá says in *Ògúndá Méjì* that:

Tal’ó tó aláṣàán bá a rí òkun?

Who is good enough for the devotee in joining him to see the ocean? [Note: The long journey to see the ocean is symbolic of one’s long journey of life].

Ẹ̀ṣàngó ní òun tó aláṣàán bá a rí òkun. Wọn ní: “Bí o bá rìn títí, bí o bá dé ilé bàbá rẹ, bí wọn bá sè oúnjẹ àyànfẹ rẹ, ńkọ?” Ẹ̀ṣàngó ní: “Bí mo bá ti yó tán, màá padà s’ilé mi.” Wọn ní Ẹ̀ṣàngó kò tó aláṣàán bá a rí òkun.

Ẹ̀ṣàngó (the deified *Ọyọ* king who detests immorality and strikes wrongdoers with lightning) said that he was good enough for the devotee in joining him to see the ocean. They (others) said: “If you happen to walk on-and-on, if you happen to reach the home of your father, if they happen to cook your favorite food, then what about that?” *Ẹ̀ṣàngó* said: “If I happen to have become satisfied completely, then I would return to my home.” They said that *Ẹ̀ṣàngó* was not good enough for the devotee in joining him to see the ocean.

Bẹ̀ẹ̀gẹ̀gẹ̀ ni Ọya, Òrìṣànlá, Ẹ̀lẹ̀gbára, Ògún, Ọ̀ṣun, àti Ẹ̀là, wọn kò tó aláṣàán bá a rí òkun.

It was likewise that *Ọya* (the *òrìṣà* of the wind), *Òrìṣànlá* (the *òrìṣà* of moral sense), *Ẹ̀lẹ̀gbára* (*Èṣù*, the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests), *Ògún* (the *òrìṣà* of iron and war), *Ọ̀ṣun* (the *òrìṣà* of beauty, fertility, childbirth, and child protection), and *Ẹ̀là* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), they were not good enough for the devotee in joining him to see the ocean.

Tal’ó tó aláṣàán bá a rí òkun? Orí nìkan l’ó tó aláṣàán bá a rí òkun.

Who is good enough for the devotee in joining him to see the ocean? It is *Orí Ẹ̀lẹ̀dàá* (Man’s godself) alone who is good enough for the devotee in joining him to see the ocean.

Ire gbogbo tí mo bá ní l’áyé, Orí ni màá rò fún. Orí pẹ̀lẹ̀, atètè nírán, atètè gbè ẹ̀ni kí òòṣà. Kò sí òrìṣà tí ó tó gbè lẹ̀yìn Orí ẹ̀ni.

Every good thing that I happen to have in life, it is *Orí* of whom I will think well. Hail *Orí*, the one who quickly remembers (me), the one who quickly supports a person before *òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents). There is no *òrìṣà* who is sufficient to give support behind the back of one’s *Orí*.

The power of God is within you, and so you can transcend any circumstance, habit, or personality trait. Attune yourself to *Orí Ẹ̀lẹ̀dàá* (Man’s godself) so that you may fully develop your life potential.

Fully developing your own life potential is tied to helping others to do the same. *Ifá* says in *Ìrosùn Ìwòrì* that:

Kí a fi inúdídùn ẹ̀ é. Ẹ̀ni tí ó maa lọ, kí ó maa lọ. Ẹ̀ni tí ó maa dẹ̀hìn, kí ó maa dẹ̀hìn. Dandan èyàn ni a yàn kí wọn mú ire lọ s’áyé.

We ought to use gladness to do it. One who is intending to leave, he ought to get leaving. One who is intending to turn back, he ought to get turning back. Surely it is human beings whom were chosen to take good things away to the world.

Mòràn-tán, awo Èlà, l'ó dífá nígbàtí àwọn ọmọ ayé òbòwá láti bi Èlà léèrè ọràn kan. A ní kí Èlà wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was Knowledgeable-completely, the priest of Èlà (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), who performed *Ifá* divination when the people of the world were coming to ask Èlà about a matter. It was said that Èlà ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

N'íjọ kan, onírúurú èyàn (àwọn èyàn rere àti àwọn èyàn tí kò jẹkí èyàn sunwọn) gbàràjọ. Wọn tò Èlà wá. Wọn ní: "Ìpààrà ayé yìí sù wa, Èlà. Nítorínàà, kí ó jòwọ jẹkí a simi s'ọrun."

One day, different kinds of people (good people and people who did not allow that people be well) gathered together. They approached Èlà. They said: "This going back and forth to the world tires us, Èlà. Therefore, please allow that we rest in heaven."

Èlà ní: "Èyin kò lè ṣàì maa pààrà ọ̀de ayé tíí èyin ọ̀ò fí dé ipò rere tí Èlédàá ti yàn fún gbogbo èyàn. Lèhìn-nàà ní èyin ọ̀ò simi s'ọrun."

Èlà said: "You are not able to fail to be going back and forth to earth town until you will make happen the good situation that Èlédàá (Creator God) has chosen for all people. It is afterward that you will rest in heaven."

Wọn ní: "Kíni ipò rere?"

They said: "What is the good situation?"

Èlà ní: "Ipò rere náà l'ayé rere – ayé àmòtán ohun gbogbo; ayọ níbigbogbo; wíwà láìsí ominú tàbí ibèrù ọ̀tá; wíwà láìsí ijà ejò tàbí ẹranko búburú òmíràn; wíwà láìsí ibèrù ikú, àrùn, ẹjọ, ọ̀fò, ọ̀sọ, àjẹ, tàbí Èṣù; wíwà láìsí ibèrù ifarapa omi tàbí iná; àti wíwà láìsí ibèrù àìní tàbí ọ̀sì – nítorí agbára inú, iwà rere, àti ọgbón."

Èlà said: "It is the aforementioned good position that is a good world – a world of perfect knowledge of everything; joy everywhere; being without worry or fear of opponents; being without fighting with snakes or other bad wild animals; being without fear of death, illness, litigation, loss, male bird-people, female bird-people, or Èṣù (the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests); being without fear of injury from water or fire; and being without fear of poverty or misery – because of inner strength, good conduct, and wisdom."

Èlà ní: "A dé ipò rere nígbàtí ẹnì kò jalẹ̀ mọ̀ nítorí ẹ̀dùn tí ó wà nínú rẹ̀ fún olúwa ohun-ìní àti nítorí àbùkù tí ó wà nínú iwà yìí fún wa níwájú Èlédàá àti àwọn ẹgbẹ̀ rere míràn tí ó wà l'ọrun, tí íbá wa ẹ̀ ọ̀rẹ̀, tí ifẹ̀ ire sí wa. Iwà burúkú gbogbo ní ajádèhìnbọ."

Èlà said: "We reach the good situation when one does not take part in stealing anymore because of the pain that is in it for the owner of the thing possessed and because of the stain blemish that is in this behavior for us in front of Èlédàá and other good comrades who are in heaven, who are engaging us in being friends, who are wishing good things to us. Every nasty behavior has repercussions."

Èlà ní: "Ohun tí yóò gbé wa dé ipò rere náà: ọgbón tí ó pọ̀ tọ̀ èyítí a lè fí ẹ̀kọ̀so ayé; irúbọ; iwà ifẹ̀ràn ooṣeṣe fún gbogbo èyàn, ní-pàtàkì àwọn tí iṣe aláìní àti àwọn tí ifẹ̀ irànlọ̀wọ̀ lódò wa; itara fún àti síṣà ipá láti fí kún ire tí ó wà l'áyé, láìjẹkí ire, èyíkéyíí tí a ti ní, lọ."

Èlà said: "That which will carry us to reach the aforementioned good situation: wisdom that is plentiful to educate the ones whom we are able to use to govern the world; doing *ẹbọ*; the conduct of loving the doing of acts of kindness for all people, chiefly the ones who are poor and the ones who want aid from us; enthusiasm for and the application of efforts

to make full the good things that are in the world, without allowing that good things, any that we have possessed, to go away.”

Èlà ní: “Àwọn èyàn òò maa lọ s’òrun. Wọn òò sì maa padà wá s’óde ayé lèhìn iparadà wọn tííni kòòkan òò fi dé ipò rere náà. Nítorínàà, nígbà tí àwọn ọmọ Èlédàá péjọ, àwọn tí ó yàn láti kó ire wá s’óde ayé l’a pè lí ‘èyàn’.”

Èlà said: “People will be going to heaven. They will moreover be turning back to come to earth town after their transfiguration until each person will make happen the aforementioned good situation. Therefore, when the children of *Èlédàá* assemble together, it is those whom he chose to bring good things to earth town whom we call ‘human beings’.”

You are in the world in order to help to make it a better living space for everyone.

1.3 The 16 Ìdáfá words

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Ìdáfá (bringing forth *Èlà*) or **Ifá dídá** (*Èlà* being brought forth) is the divination practice used by adherents who have been initiated to *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom. *Ìdáfá* uses a set of 16 ‘words’ as the basic constituents of its messages. Each of these oracular words is a four-tiered figure that consists of single and/or double marks. TABLE 1.3a presents the sixteen *Ìdáfá* words ranked from 01 to 16.

TABLE 1.3a: The oracular words of Ifá dídá

I I I I	II II II II	II I I II	I II II I	I I II II	II II I I	I II II II	II II II I
01 Ogbè	02 Ọyẹkú	03 Ìwòrì	04 Òdí	05 Ìrosùn	06 Ọwọ̀nrín	07 Ọbàrà	08 Ọkànràn
I I I II	II I I I	II I II II	II II I II	I II I I	I I II I	I II I II	II I II I
09 Ọgúndá	10 Ọsá	11 Ìkà	12 Òtúrúpọ̀n	13 Òtúra	14 Ìrètẹ̀	15 Ọsẹ̀	16 Òfún

Ẹ̀rìndílógún (sixteen cowries) is the divination practice used by adherents who have been initiated to an *òrìṣà* other than *Èlà*. In this practice, one casts 16 consecrated cowry shells. Each cowry shell has a curved opening that is called its **mouth**. A cast cowry’s mouth is said to be open if it is facing up. *Ẹ̀rìndílógún* uses a set of 16 oracular words. Each of these oracular words is a

nonzero total of open mouths among the cast cowries. TABLE 1.3b presents the sixteen *Ẹ̀ẹ̀rìndílógún* words.

TABLE 1.3b: The oracular words of Ẹ̀ẹ̀rìndílógún

Oracular Word	Open Mouths	Oracular Word	Open Mouths
Ọ̀kànràn	1	Ọ̀sá	9
Èjì Ọ̀kò	2	Ọ̀fún	10
Ọ̀gúndá	3	Ọ̀wọ̀nrín	11
Ìrosùn	4	Èjílá Aṣẹ̀bọ̀ra	12
Ọ̀sé	5	Mètàlá	13
Ọ̀bàrà	6	Mẹ̀rìnlá	14
Ọ̀dí	7	Mẹ̀ẹ̀dógún	15
Ogbè	8	Mẹ̀rìndínlógún	16

Let's examine the sixteen *Ìdáfá* words, many of which are also *Ẹ̀ẹ̀rìndílógún* words.

Ìdáfá word #01 is **Ogbè**. In *Ẹ̀ẹ̀rìndílógún*, it is a total of eight open mouths.

On interpreting the name *Ogbè* as the expression *o-gbè* (you bring benefit), this oracular word carries the message of 'a wholesome road'. The adjective 'wholesome' means 'contributing to physical, moral, or social well-being'.

Ìdáfá word #02 is **Ọ̀yẹ̀kú**. Some *Ẹ̀ẹ̀rìndílógún* diviners equate *Ọ̀yẹ̀kú* with *Èjì Ọ̀kò* (a total of two open mouths).

On interpreting the name *Ọ̀yẹ̀kú* as the noun *ọ̀-yẹ̀-íkú* (one who habitually displaces death), this oracular word carries the message of 'averting ruin'.

On interpreting the name *Ọ̀yẹ̀kú* as the expression *ọ̀yẹ̀-kú* (morning twilight is congratulated), this oracular word carries the message of 'not missing out on bright possibilities'.

Ìdáfá word #03 is **Ìwòrì**.

On interpreting the name *Ìwòrì* as the expression *ìwò-ìrí* (looking at and finding), this oracular word carries the message of 'good things becoming seen'.

On taking the name *Ìwòrì* punningly as the expression *ìwọ̀-rí* (you see), this oracular word carries the message of 'seeing things clearly'.

Ìdáfá word #04 is **Ọ̀dí**. In *Ẹ̀ẹ̀rìndílógún*, it is a total of seven open mouths.

On taking the name *Ọ̀dí* punningly as the noun *òdídí* (blockage), this oracular word carries the message of 'blockage'.

On taking the name *Òdí* punningly as the nouns *òdì* (contrariness) and *odì* (ill will), this oracular word carries the message of ‘enemies’.

On taking the name *Òdí* punningly as the noun *ìdí* (buttocks), this oracular word carries the message of ‘having a sound foundation’.

Ìdáfá word #05 is **Ìrosùn**. In *Èrèrindilógún*, it is a total of four open mouths.

On interpreting the name *Ìrosùn* as the expression *ìro-ìsun* (aching and exuding tears), this oracular word carries the message of ‘patiently persevering through difficulty’.

We may associate *Ìrosùn* with astrological Saturn, which represents restriction, structure, and slow change. Saturn is the bringer of challenges that require patient perseverance in order for one to prevail. Spiritually speaking, Saturn is the energy associated with Man’s ability to patiently persevere (that is, to calmly remain constant to a purpose in spite of obstacles). Saturn is nobly expressed whenever one stabilizes one’s heart (that is, one’s prevailing mental and emotional attitude), so that one may think clearly and respond properly to situations in life, instead of reacting according to habit or impulse.

Ìdáfá word #06 is **Òwónrín**. In *Èrèrindilógún*, it is a total of eleven open mouths.

On taking the name *Òwónrín* punningly as the expression *ò-wòn-ìrìn* (one who habitually measures steps), this oracular word carries the message of ‘taking measured action’.

On taking the name *Òwónrín* punningly as the expression *òwò-ńrìn* (honor is walking), this oracular word carries the message of ‘walking honorably’.

Èrèrindilógún associates *Òwónrín* with *egúngún* (honorable ancestors), who are the custodians of the ethics and traditions of one’s tribe. Those who walk honorably in the earthly realm are on the way to becoming honorable ancestors in the heavenly realm.

Ìdáfá word #07 is **Òbàrà**. In *Èrèrindilógún*, it is a total of six open mouths.

On taking the name *Òbàrà* punningly as the expression *oba-àrá* (king of thunder), this oracular word refers to *Ẹ̀sàngó* (the deified *Ọ̀yọ́* king who detests immorality and strikes wrongdoers with lightning), and it carries the message of ‘asserting oneself with dignity’.

Èrèrindilógún associates *Òbàrà* with *Ẹ̀sàngó*, who is the deified *Ọ̀yọ́* king who detests immorality and strikes wrongdoers with lightning. He corresponds to astrological Sun, which represents vitality, self-esteem, volition, and leadership. Spiritually speaking, Sun is the energy associated with Man’s will – one’s ability to deliberately decide on a course of action, one’s freedom to choose between right and wrong. Sun is nobly expressed whenever one asserts oneself with dignity by using their will to rise above course and unsavory things.

Ìdáfá word #08 is **Òkànràn**. In *Èrèrindilógún*, it is a total of one open mouth.

On interpreting the name *Òkànràn* as the noun *ò-kàn-òràn* (one who habitually gives matters their turns of opportunity), this oracular word carries the message of ‘giving something good its turn’.

On interpreting the name *Òkànràn* as the noun *ò-kàn-òràn* (one who habitually touches trouble), this oracular word carries the message of ‘touching trouble’.

Èrèrindilógún associates *Òkànràn* with *Èsù*, who is the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests. He corresponds to astrological Mercury, which represents mobility of thought, word, and deed. Spiritually speaking, Mercury is the energy associated with Man’s verbal mind – one’s ability to think logically and to express oneself through words. Mercury is nobly expressed whenever one uses their cleverness and verbal facility to further that which is wholesome.

Ìdáfà word #09 is **Ògúndá**. In *Èrèrindilógún*, it is a total of three open mouths.

On interpreting the name *Ògúndá* as the expression *Ògún-dá* (*Ògún* creates), this oracular word refers to *Ògún* as the pioneer who goes in advance to prepare the road for others, and it carries the message of ‘clearing a way’.

On interpreting the name *Ògúndá* as the expression *Ògún-dá* (*Ògún* is good), this oracular word refers to *Ògún* and carries the message of ‘having the courage to take right action’.

Èrèrindilógún associates *Ògúndá* with *Ògún*, who is the *òrìṣà* of iron and war. He corresponds to astrological Mars, which represents courage, enthusiasm, assertiveness, and pioneering. Spiritually speaking, Mars is the energy associated with Man’s sense of justice. Being just with all people in all situations requires one to have a warrior’s courage and zeal for righteousness, even at the cost of personal loss. Mars is nobly expressed whenever one has the courage to take right action.

Ìdáfà word #10 is **Òsá**. In *Èrèrindilógún*, it is a total of nine open mouths.

On interpreting the name *Òsá* as the noun *ò-sá* (one who habitually flees or runs away), this oracular word carries the message of ‘running away from a challenge’.

The oracular word *Òsá* brings to mind the noun *sáà* (season), which is a period of time that is marked by special activities or events. In this regard, on taking the name *Òsá* punningly as the noun *ò-sà* (one who habitually applies a remedy), this oracular word carries the message of ‘taking timely action’.

Ìdáfà word #11 is **Ìká**. Some *Èrèrindilógún* diviners equate *Ìká* with *Métàlá* (a total of thirteen open mouths).

On taking the name *Ìká* punningly as the noun *ikà* (evil), this oracular word carries the message of ‘engaging in ill conduct’.

On interpreting the name *Ìká* as the noun *iká* (turning against someone), this oracular word carries the message of ‘experiencing ill luck’.

On interpreting the name *Ìká* as the noun *iká* (plucking fruit), this oracular word carries the message of ‘reaping a reward’.

Èrèrindilógún associates *Métàlá* with *Olóde* (also called *Babalúayé*), who is the *òrìṣà* of the outdoors. He punishes Man’s excessive conduct with diseases, especially smallpox. We may associate *Olóde* with astrological Saturn, which represents restriction, structure, and slow

change. Saturn is the bringer of challenges that require patient perseverance in order for one to prevail. In astrology, Saturn's intrinsic attributes make it the natural representative of chronic ailments, that which is old and decaying, and death.

Ìdáfá word #12 is **Òtúrúpòn**.

On taking the name *Òtúrúpòn* punningly as the noun *ò-tú-erù-pòn* (one who habitually releases a load and back-carries it), this oracular word refers to a mother who births a child and carries it on her back, and it carries the message of 'being productive'.

Ìdáfá word #13 is **Òtúrá**. Some *Èrèrindilógún* diviners equate *Òtúrá* with *Mèèèédógún* (a total of fifteen open mouths).

This oracular word brings to mind the noun *itura* (ease of body and mind), and it carries the message of 'averting a worrisome situation'.

Ìdáfá word #14 is **Ìrètè**. Some *Èrèrindilógún* diviners equate *Ìrètè* with *Mèrèrindilógún* (a total of sixteen open mouths).

On taking the name *Ìrètè* punningly as the expression *irè-ìtè* (being friendly with imprinting), this oracular word carries the message of 'making one's mark' (that is, achieving something of lasting impact).

On taking the name *Ìrètè* punningly as the expression *irè-ìtè* (being friendly with *Ifá* initiation), this oracular word carries the message of 'practicing *Ifá*'.

On taking the name *Ìrètè* punningly as the expression *irè-òtè* (being friendly with conspiracy), this oracular word carries the message of 'being unwholesomely influenced'.

We may associate *Ìrètè* with astrological Moon, which represents receptivity, adaptability, and devotion. Spiritually speaking, Moon is the energy associated with Man's trance ability, which enables one to learn and to change. In a trance state, one has a heightened receptivity in which beliefs, images, and words become empowered to create or undo habits. Moon is nobly expressed whenever one is receptive to and compliant with right guidance.

Ìdáfá word #15 is **Òşé**. In *Èrèrindilógún*, it is a total of five open mouths.

On interpreting the name *Òşé* as the noun *ò-şé* (one who habitually overcomes) and on bringing to mind the nouns *ìşé* (poverty) and *òşé* (hurt), this oracular word carries the message of 'overcoming trouble'.

Èrèrindilógún associates *Òşé* with *Òşun*, who is the *òrìşà* of beauty, fertility, childbirth, and child protection. She corresponds to astrological Venus, which represents affection, enjoyment, attractive power, and harmony. Spiritually speaking, Venus is the energy associated with Man's visual mind – one's imagination, which enables one to form mental images. When intensely entertained with aroused feelings of enjoyment, mental images gain the power to attract the necessary resources for their realization. Venus is nobly expressed whenever through joyful optimism, one attracts the necessary resources for faring well.

Ìdàfà word #16 is **Òfún**. In *Eérindilógún*, it is a total of ten open mouths.

On interpreting the name *Òfún* as the expression *ò-fún* (one who habitually gives) and on bringing to mind the adjective *funfun* (the color white, which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness because white clothing most easily picks up a stain), this oracular word carries the message of ‘acting with rectitude’. Rectitude is right conduct and right judgment.

On interpreting the name *Òfún* as the expression *ò-fún* (one that is habitually narrow), this oracular word carries the message of ‘efforts of limited success’.

Èṣérindílógún associates *Òfún* with *Òrìṣànlá* (also called *Ọ̀bàtálá*), who is the *òrìṣà* of moral sense. He corresponds to astrological Jupiter, which represents virtuous optimism (that is, the belief that virtuous action eventually brings the best outcome) and expansion (material and spiritual). Because one's optimism draws positive circumstances to oneself, Jupiter is the bringer of good luck (that is, favorable circumstances that are beyond willful control). Spiritually speaking, Jupiter is the energy associated with Man's moral sense – one's intuitive ability to distinguish right from wrong. Jupiter is nobly expressed whenever one acts with good character and good judgment.

1.4 The 256 Ìdáfá sentences

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Each *Ìdáfá* message is called an **Odù**, which is a ‘sentence’ consisting of two *Ìdáfá* words placed side by side. Each of these oracular sentences is read from right to left. The *Ìdáfá* word on the right is called the **masculine leg**, while the *Ìdáfá* word on the left is called the **feminine leg**. TABLE 1.4a presents some examples.

TABLE 1.4a: Some examples of Odù

 Èjì Ogbè	 Ìwòrì Méjì	 Òfún Méjì	 Ìwòrì Òfún	 Òfún Ìwòrì
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The 256 *Ìdáfá* sentences are broadly categorized into two groups: the **Ojú Odù** and the **Àmúlù Odù**. The *Ojú Odù* is the group of 16 *Ìdáfá* sentences, each one consisting of a doubling of an *Ìdáfá* word. We may refer to each of the *Ojú Odù* by the name of its common *Ìdáfá* word followed by the adjective *méjì* (which means ‘taken twice’). For example, the name *Òbàrà Méjì* means ‘Òbàrà taken twice’. We may alternatively refer to each of the *Ojú Odù* by the noun *èjì* (which means ‘two of ...’) followed by the name of its common *Ìdáfá* word. For example, an alternative name of *Òbàrà Méjì* is *Èjì Òbàrà*, which means ‘two of Òbàrà’.

The *Àmúlù Odù* is the group of 240 *Ìdáfá* sentences, each one consisting of different *Ìdáfá* words. The name of each *Àmúlù Odù* is the name of its right (masculine) leg followed by the name of its left (feminine) leg.

TABLE 1.4b: Themes of the sixteen *Ìdáfá* words

Word	Themes
<i>Ogbè</i>	A wholesome road.
<i>Ọyèkú</i>	Averting ruin. Not missing out on bright possibilities.
<i>Ìwòrì</i>	Good things becoming seen. Seeing things clearly.
<i>Òdí</i>	Blockage or enemies. Having a sound foundation.
<i>Ìrosùn</i>	Patiently persevering through difficulty.
<i>Ọwónrín</i>	Taking measured action. Walking honorably.
<i>Ọbàrà</i>	Asserting oneself with dignity.
<i>Ọkànràn</i>	Giving something good its turn. Touching trouble.
<i>Ọgúndá</i>	Clearing a way. Having the courage to take right action.
<i>Ọsá</i>	Running away from a challenge. Taking timely action.
<i>Ìká</i>	Ill conduct or ill luck. Reaping a reward
<i>Òtúrùpòn</i>	Being productive.
<i>Òtúrá</i>	Averting a worrisome situation.
<i>Ìrètẹ</i>	Making one's mark. Practicing <i>Ifá</i> . Unwholesome influences.
<i>Ọsẹ</i>	Overcoming through joyful optimism. Overcoming trouble.
<i>Ọfún</i>	Acting righteously and judiciously. Efforts of limited success.

Each *Odù* (oracular sentence) describes a situation. Its right (masculine) leg indicates the foremost aspect of the situation, while its left (feminine) leg indicates pertinent circumstances. For your *Odù* of interest, use the themes of TABLE 1.4b to examine possible meanings. For example, *Ogbè Ọkànràn* is an *Odù* that could mean that *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ọkànràn* (giving something good its turn). Moreover, *Ogbè Ọkànràn* could mean that *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is hindered by *Ọkànràn* (touching trouble).

2. IFÁ DÍDÁ

2.1 Ìjúbà (paying homage)

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Before performing any type of spiritual work, you ought to pay homage to higher authorities. Begin the homage by sprinkling some drops of cool water on the ground while saying:

Omi tútù. Ilẹ̀ tútù.

Cool water. Cool earth.

Bí omi bá balẹ̀, omi ọ̀ò nípá. Bí omi bá balẹ̀, omi ọ̀ò là ilú. Bí omi bá balẹ̀, omi ọ̀ò nípá.

If water happens to touch the ground, then water will be potent. If water happens to touch the ground, then water will enrich the town. If water happens to touch the ground, then water will be potent.

This incantation contains an excerpt from *Èjì Ogbè*.

Now speak as follows:

Ìbà Èlédàá, t'ó wá ẹ̀ Ẹ̀ṣù Èlẹgbára, t'ó wá ẹ̀ Ọ̀gún, aláḍá méjì, t'ó wá ẹ̀ Ọ̀ṣun (oore yèyẹ o!), t'ó wá ẹ̀ Yemoja, olódò, t'ó wá ẹ̀ Ẹ̀ṣàgò (kábíyèsí o!), t'ó wá ẹ̀ Ọ̀rìṣànlá, bàntà-banta nínú àlà, t'ó wá ẹ̀ Ẹ̀là, ẹ̀lẹ̀rìí ipín, t'ó wá ẹ̀ gbogbo ọ̀rìṣà.

Reverence to *Èlédàá*, who comes being *Ẹ̀ṣù*, the Forceful-one, who comes being *Ọ̀gún*, the owner of two machetes, who comes being *Ọ̀ṣun* (benevolent great mother!), who comes being *Yemoja*, the owner of rivers, who comes being *Ẹ̀ṣàgò* (that we question him does not exist!), who comes being *Ọ̀rìṣànlá*, the immense one in white clothing, who comes being *Ẹ̀là*, the witness to destiny, who comes being every *ọ̀rìṣà*.

Ilẹ̀, mo júbà. Bàbá, mo júbà. Yèyẹ, mo júbà. Ìbà bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ọ̀run.

Mother Earth, I give reverence. Father, I give reverence. Mother, I give reverence. Reverence to respectable persons of heaven.

Ẹ̀dú, mo júbà. Ìbà Akódá. Ìbà Aṣẹ́dà. Ìbà Adéṣínà. Ìbà Olúwo. Ìbà Ojùgbọ̀nà.

Ẹ̀dú (Jet-black, a name of *Ẹ̀là*), I give reverence. Reverence to *Akódá* (a famous *Ifá* disciple). Reverence to *Aṣẹ́dà* (a famous *Ifá* disciple). Reverence to *Adéṣínà*. Reverence to (my) *olúwo*. Reverence to (my) *ojùgbọ̀nà*.

Bí ekòlò bá júbà ilẹ̀, ilẹ̀ á lànà. Ọ̀mọ̀dé kì íjúbà kì ìbà pa á. Àṣẹ!

If the earthworm pays respect to the earth, then the earth will give it access. A youngster never gives reverence and then the reverence kills him. So be it!

In this homage, you are expressing respect for Creator God, Man's godself, *ọ̀rìṣà* (divine ministerial agents), Mother Earth, *bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ọ̀run* (respectable persons of the spirit world), and the people who have contributed significantly to your spiritual development. Note that the noun *Èlédàá* refers both to Creator God (who is the owner of all beings) and to *Orí* (Man's godself).

In this homage, I mention *Adéşínà*, who was an *Ifá* priest brought from Nigeria to Cuba, where he lived under the name ‘Remigio Herrera’. He is a representative of enslaved Africans who brought *Ifá* to the Americas.

2.2 Enhancing the diviner

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Here is an incantation that makes your hands effective and that offers you protection from hexes:

Òtún pèlẹ́, awo wọn l’óde Àbá. Òsì pèlẹ́, awo wọn l’óde Àbọṣẹ. Àti Òtún àti Òsì kì íṣẹbọ àìfín. Àti Òtún àti Òsì kì íṣẹbọ àìmaadà.

Hail Right-hand, the priest of those in the town of Earnest-attempt. Hail Left-hand, the priest of those in the town of *Èbọ*-coming-to-pass. Both Right-hand and Left-hand never do *ẹbọ* that is not acceptable. Both Right-hand and Left-hand never do *ẹbọ* that is not going to be effective.

Àṣẹwélé ni wọn dífá fún, ọmọkúnrin Dèpènú. Dèpènú, dèpènú. Àbáà dà ègún dà èpè lé awo lórí, kò lè jà láíláí.

It was *Àṣẹwélé* for whom they performed *Ifá* divination, the son of He-repels-hexes. He repels hexes, he repels hexes. Even if we were to heap inheritable curses and heap non-inheritable curses on a priest, they could not put up a fight ever.

Àṣẹwélé, o dé o, ọmọkúnrin Dèpènú!

Àṣẹwélé, you have arrived, the son of He-repels-hexes!

This incantation comes from *Ọwónrín Ọbàrà*.

2.3 Opening the divination session

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WARNING: If you are not an *Ifá* initiate, then do not perform *Ifá* divination! Look, but don’t touch! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o!

In order to get ready to perform *Ìdáfá*, begin by getting ritually clean – have a clean body and a clear mind. Now call on *Orí* (Man’s godself):

Orí pèlẹ́, atètè níran, atètè gbè ẹni kí òòşà. Kò sí òrìşà tí ó tó gbè lẹyìn Orí ẹni.

Hail *Orí*, the one who quickly remembers (me), the one who quickly supports a person before *òrìşà*. There is no *òrìşà* (divine ministerial agent) who is sufficient to give support behind the back of one’s *Orí*.

Orí ẹni l’àwúre ẹni o! Orí, máşẹ pa ilẹkùn dé. Lódò rẹ ni mo mbò. Wá şẹ ayé mi di rere.

It is one’s *Orí* who is one’s charm for blessings! *Orí*, do not shut the door (on me). It is your presence to which I am coming. Come cause my life in the world to become goodness.

This incantation contains excerpts from *Ògúndá Mèjì* and *Ogbè Ògúndá*.

Now call on *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom):

Èlà pèlẹ́, èlẹ̀rìí ipín, alátúnṣe ayé, asọ-òrò-di-ayò.

Hail *Èlà*, the witness to destiny, the master of improving one's life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy.

Èlà, rò; Èlà, rò; Èlà, rò.

Èlà, descend; *Èlà*, descend; *Èlà*, descend.

Ifá, bí o jí, o jí mi o! Ewé ọgbó l'ó ní kí N gbọ Ifá bí ará ịsáájú. Ifá, bí o jí, o jí mi o! Tèmi tìrẹ̀ ní imùlẹ̀. Şebí bákanhùn l'a jọra.

Ifá, whenever you wake up, wake me up! It is *ọgbó* leaves that say that I ought to understand *Ifá* like the people of the past. *Ifá*, whenever you wake up, wake me up! It is mine and yours that is a covenant. Accept as true likewise that we are alike.

This incantation contains an excerpt from *Ọ̀bàrà Íwòrì*. Now enhance yourself by using the incantation of Section 2.2.

2.4 Ready the divination apparatus

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WARNING: If you are not an *Ifá* initiate, then do not perform *Ifá* divination! Look, but don't touch! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o!

Here we assume that you are performing *Ìdáfá* with an *òpẹ̀lẹ̀*, which consists of eight half-pods strung together on a cord or chain. When held at its middle, an *òpẹ̀lẹ̀* has four half-pods hanging down on each side. Each side of an *òpẹ̀lẹ̀* has a distinct arrangement of tassels at its end. Use this distinction to choose one side of an *òpẹ̀lẹ̀* as its right-hand side and the other side as its left-hand side. Use this choice continually.

Opón Ifá is a divining tray that represents the totality of creation. When performing *Ìdáfá* with an *òpẹ̀lẹ̀*, you do not use an actual tray, but instead create a virtual one on your divining surface. Envision a circular area in front of you – this is your virtual tray. With your right hand, pick up the *òpẹ̀lẹ̀* at its middle and touch its ends to the tray's head (*iwájú*), foot (*ẹ̀yìn*), right-hand (*ọ̀tún*), left-hand (*òsì*), and center (*àárín*) while saying:

Iwájú opón, o gbó. Ẹ̀yìn opón, o gbó.

Forefront of the *Ifá* tray, you heard. Rear of the *Ifá* tray, you heard.

Olùmú l'ọ̀tún. Ọ̀lọ̀kànràn l'òsì.

Olùmú is on the right. *Ọ̀lọ̀kànràn* is on the left.

Àárín opón n'ita ọ̀run.

It is the center of the *Ifá* tray that is the open space of heaven.

The center of the *Ifá* tray, which is the working area during divination, represents the place where all things can be seen.

2.5 Consulting the oracle

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WARNING: If you are not an *Ifá* initiate, then do not perform *Ifá* divination! Look, but don't touch! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o! Òòşínà, şí ọ̀nà ire o!

In order to consult the oracle effectively, you must know how to query it properly. On pages 19-21 of her book *Learning the Tarot: A Tarot Book for Beginners*, Joan Bunning² offers some suggestions for framing proper questions. Here are three of them:

- **Accept responsibility.** Don't deflect personal responsibility by asking questions about things that lie within the realm of exercising your free will.
- **Stay neutral.** Don't assume that the oracle sees things in the same way as you do. Don't bias your questions toward what you think the answers must be. Ask neutral questions.
- **Find the best level of detail.** Seek the fine line between wording that is too vague and wording that is too detailed. Include only the details that are necessary to make clear what you want to know.

Come to the oracle with respect and view it as a trusted friend.

The following questions are useful to receive the oracle's advice or insight:

- Person *P* divines about action *A* (or event *E* or situation *S*).
- What is it important for me to know about event *E* (or person *P* or situation *S*)?
- What if person *P* were to do action *A*?
- How might I best deal with person *P* (or situation *S*)?
- What is the most important thing for me to learn and master in order to open the way for me to fulfill my destiny?

When faced with choices, ask a separate question for each choice and compare the various responses.

Once you have a proper question in mind, do the following:

- Hold the *ọ̀pẹ̀lẹ̀* in your hands and meditate in silence on your question.
- Invoke the oracle by saying: “*Akínmọ̀ràn, Akínmọ̀ràn, Akínmọ̀ràn!*” The expression *Akínmọ̀ràn* calls on divine omniscience and is probably a contraction of the expression *a-kún-ìmọ̀-ọ̀ràn*, which means ‘one who is full of knowledge of matters’.
- Ask your question either aloud or softly to yourself.

² Joan Bunning, Weiser Books (1998), ISBN-10: 1578630487, ISBN-13: 978-1578630486.

- Cast the *òpèlè* onto your virtual tray by: [1] using your right hand to pick it up at its middle and then throwing the middle away from you; and [2] arranging the fallen *òpèlè* into two parallel lines of four half-pods each.
- On a piece of paper, record the oracle's response as follows. Each half-pod has a concave and a convex side. If a half-pod falls concave-side up, then represent it by a single mark (as **I**). If a half-pod falls convex-side up, then represent it by a double mark (as **II**). For both lines of the cast *òpèlè*, record the symbol of each half-pod from top to bottom. These two columns of four-tiered marks form an *Odù*.

This cast of the *òpèlè* yields the *Odù* that carries the oracle's response to your question. As an aid to understanding this response, it is helpful to cast a second *Odù*. The message of this second *Odù* will supplement the message of the first *Odù*.

For a Yes/No question, cast two *Odù* – their combined message usually provides pertinent guidance that suggests an affirmative or negative response.

In order to interpret the oracle's response, use Appendix A.

2.6 Closing the divination session

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Conclude your divination session by touching your head to the ground while saying:

Mo dúpé lówó Èlédàá. Àbọ́rú, àbọ́yè, àbọ́síṣẹ. Àṣẹ! Tó!

I give thanks at the hands of *Èlédàá*. May *ẹbọ* be done, may *ẹbọ* be approved, may *ẹbọ* be fulfilled. So be it! It is enough!

Be blessed!

3. MAGICAL WORK

3.1 Èbọ and ìbọ

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The *Yorùbá* verb **bọ** refers to using magical work to bring oneself into harmony with one or more spiritual entities. Magic is the use of incantations and suitable materials to invoke spiritual entities to influence events. From the verb *bọ*, we get the nouns *ẹbọ* and *ìbọ*.

Èbọ is a type of magical work that is prescribed for furthering one's well-being (that is, one's state of being happy, healthy, and prosperous). *Èbọ* is done whenever *Ìdáfá* or *Èṣẹ̀rindílógún* has prescribed it. *Èbọ* items are usually presented at the prime talisman of *Èṣù* (the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests). The *ẹlẹ̀bọ* (person for whom *ẹbọ* is being done) is not free to make personal use of the *ẹbọ* items after they have been ritually presented.

Ìbọ is a type of magical work that is aimed at strengthening one's connection with a particular spiritual entity. *Ìbọ* can be done whenever desired. *Ìbọ* items are presented at the talisman of the spiritual entity of interest. The person for whom *ìbọ* is being done is free to make personal use of the *ìbọ* items after they have been ritually presented. *Èbọ* must be done before *ìbọ* whenever pertinent.

For a particular *ẹbọ*, the items to be used depend on the nature of the situation for which the *ẹbọ* has been prescribed. For a particular *ìbọ*, the items to be used depend on the nature of the spiritual entity of interest. Some possible *ẹbọ/ìbọ* items are: [1] incantations, [2] food and drink, [3] herbal concoctions, [4] votive candles, and [5] animals. Consider the following:

[1] Incantations: Many divination messages from *Ìdáfá* and *Èṣẹ̀rindílógún* contain words that can serve as prayerful affirmations. For those who are somewhat biblically inclined, there are many prayerful affirmations in the book of Psalms.

[2] Food and drink: *Epo* (palm oil) is a very useful food item for spiritual work. *Epo* is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly. *Qí* (alcoholic beverage) is a very useful drink item for spiritual work.

[3] Herbal concoctions: Many divination messages from *Ìdáfá* and *Èṣẹ̀rindílógún* prescribe herbal concoctions as part of *àkóse Ifá* (*Ifá* medicine). If the prescribed herbs are not readily available, then feel free to use available herbs that can get the job done. A very useful herbal item is Van Van oil, which is a hoodoo formula that dispels negative energy and that attracts positive energy. Visit the website <<https://originalbotanica.com/blog>>, where you can learn about Van Van oil from the blog post *Van Van Conjure Oil: A Staple of Hoodoo and Rootwork* (19 August 2024).

[4] Votive candles: A votive candle is lit for conveying a prayerful affirmation in behalf of the *ẹlẹ̀bọ*. After ritually preparing the candle, place it in a glass container. Write the prayerful affirmation on a small piece of paper and then fold it to a small size. After placing the paper underneath the candle's glass container, light the candle and speak the prayerful affirmation.

After the candle has finished burning, consider having the *elẹbọ* to carry the paper on her/his person or to leave it at a crossroads.

[5] Animals: Many divination messages from *Ìdáfá* and *Ẹ̀rìndílógún* prescribe animals among the *ẹbọ/ibọ* items. In many cases, these prescribed animals are meant to serve both as *ẹbọ/ibọ* items and as sources of food for the household. Within reason, do not use animals as *ẹbọ/ibọ* items if there is no intention to also use them to feed people.

When considering *ẹbọ/ibọ* items, be reasonable and use whatever gets the job done, while being mindful of pertinent taboos.

3.2 Performing spiritual work

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Ifá says in *Ìrètẹ̀ Ọ̀yẹ̀kú* that:

Bí o bá rúbọ, kí o bèrẹ̀síí ooreṣiṣe láti òní lọ jù t'àtẹ̀yìnwá. Lásán l'ọ rúbọ bí o bá dín iwà-rere.

If you happen to do *ẹbọ*, then you ought to begin good-doing from today onward more than in the past. It is in vain that you do *ẹbọ* if you happen to diminish good conduct.

In order for *ẹbọ/ibọ* to be effective, the person for whom it is offered must supplement it with good conduct.

Ifá says in *Ọ̀gúndá Méjì* that:

Gbogbo isòrò Ọ̀pẹ̀, níbo l'ẹbọ wà? Ẹnu èyàn l'ẹbọ wà.

All *Ifá* practitioners, where is *ẹbọ* located? It is the mouth of human beings where *ẹbọ* is located.

Ifá says in *Ọ̀ṣẹ̀ Ọ̀tírà* that:

Àkéké ni íbà igi sá. Ẹnu awo n'ibà òun àṣẹ wà. Nígbàtí awo bá ní àá n'ire gbogbo, a maa n'ire gbogbo. Àkéké ni íbà igi sá. Ẹnu awo n'ibà òun àṣẹ wà.

It is the axe that is landing on the tree to cut it. It is the mouth of the priest where reverence and spiritual power exist. When the priest happens to say that we will have every good thing, we will be having every good thing. It is the axe that is landing on the tree to cut it. It is the mouth of the priest where reverence and spiritual power exist.

If the person who is officiating the *ẹbọ/ibọ* is attuned to divine purpose, then whatever they say will come to pass.

Here we present a procedure for doing *ẹbọ*. You may use this procedure to do *ibọ* by making suitable adaptations.

STEP #1: Pay homage to higher authorities according to Section 2.1. Enhance yourself by using the incantation of Section 2.2. Ask the *elẹbọ* to assert what they want the *ẹbọ* to achieve.

STEP #2: Say the following formula, which contains an excerpt from *Òdí Méjì*:

Èbọ tí (...) fún Èṣù, aládó àsúre, ó rú u kí ó baà lè sún àlààfià rẹ síwájú.

An *ẹbọ* that (the name of the *ẹlẹbọ*) gives to *Èṣù*, the possessor of the calabash of blessings, they do it so that they may be able to further their well-being.

Òòdínà, dí ọ̀nà ibi o [ẹ̀ẹ̀mẹ̀ta]! Òòṣínà, sí ọ̀nà ire o [ẹ̀ẹ̀mẹ̀ta]!

Road-blocker, block the road of bad things [3 times]! Road-opener, open the road of good things [3 times]!

STEP #3: At the prime *Èṣù* talisman, do a libation of water and properly present the *ẹbọ* materials.

STEP #4: Say the following Kemite formula, which declares your intrinsic divinity and furthers healing:

Anok Atoum, waakou. Anok nouter oi hōper jesəf. Anok ati hōsəfəf əm nouterou.

I am *Atum* (the All), I am alone (that is, one and only). I am the great divine entity who came into existence by himself. I am one not having his opposition from divine entities.

Er (...), dōri joout nibet eretəf (or eretəs).

As for (the name of the *ẹlẹbọ*), I get rid of every bad thing pertaining to him (or her).

This formula is based on excerpts from Incantation 17 of *Rw nw prt em hrw*, ‘Utterances of coming forth by day’, which is a descendant of Incantation 335 of the Coffin Texts.

STEP #5: When all is satisfactory, touch your head to the ground while saying:

Mo dúpẹ lówọ Ẹlédàá. Àbọ̀rú, àbọ̀yè, àbọ̀síṣẹ.

I give thanks at the hands of *Ẹlédàá*. May *ẹbọ* be done, may *ẹbọ* be approved, may *ẹbọ* be fulfilled.

3.3 Some incantations

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[1] An excerpt from *Ọsá Méjì*:

Ọsá Méjì l’ó ni kí gbogbo ibi ó sá fún mi.

It is *Ọsá Méjì* who tells all bad things to run away from me.

This incantation runs harmful influences away.

[2] An excerpt from *Ọwónrín Ogbè*:

Olú Kinndínrin, Èṣù Ọwónrín Sogbè, pè ire gbogbo wá.

Chief *Kinndínrin*, *Èṣù* of *Ọwónrín Sogbè*, summon every good thing to come forth.

This incantation calls on *Èṣù* to bring blessings.

[3] An excerpt from *Òbàrà Òsá*:

Ọmọ Ọbàrà Ọsá ni mo ẹ. Ọmọ Ọbàrà Ọsá kì ísá. Ikú kì ípa ọmọ Ọbàrà Ọsá. Àrùn kì ípa ọmọ Ọbàrà Ọsá. Ọmọ Ọbàrà Ọsá kì ítẹ.

It is a child of *Ọbàrà Ọsá* that I am. A child of *Ọbàrà Ọsá* never runs away. Death never overwhelms a child of *Ọbàrà Ọsá*. Illness never overwhelms a child of *Ọbàrà Ọsá*. A child of *Ọbàrà Ọsá* never falls into disgrace.

This incantation repels fear and agents of distress.

[4] An excerpt from *Ìrètẹ Ọşẹ*:

Gbogbo ibi ayé, Ifá, bá mi sọ ọ di irọrùn l'ára mi. Ìrètẹ tútù l'ó ní kí gbogbo ibi ó tẹbalẹ l'ára mi o!

Every bad thing of the world, *Ifá*, help me to transform it into a convenience for me. It is cool *Ìrètẹ* who tells every harmful influence to bow down to me!

This incantation turns intended evil into eventual good.

[5] A *Kôngo* saying:

Buka mu kati, ya buka ku mbazi.

(You, the divine in me) minister to the inside, (while) I minister to the outside.

This incantation furthers complete healing.

[6] A biblical saying [The Bible, Psalm 51:10]:

Leb ʔahōr bārā lī ʔElōhīm wərūah nakōn ʔaddeš bəqirbī.

Create in me *ʔElōhīm* a clean heart and reestablish a stable spirit within me.

This incantation furthers spiritual cleansing. *ʔElōhīm* is Creator God and her/his ministerial agents. The heart here refers to one's prevailing mental and emotional attitude.

4. SOME READINGS

4.1 Introduction

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In this section, we present a number of readings in which I consulted the *Yi-Jīng* Oracle together with the *Ifá* Oracle. The *Yi-Jīng* Oracle speaks through 64 basic message constituents called *hexagrams*. The *Ifá* Oracle speaks through 256 basic message constituents called *Odù*. In order to interpret the *Yi-Jīng* response, we will make use of my book entitled *The Yi-Jīng Oracle, A Guide to Your Best Life*. This book is posted on my website < <https://www.ifakunle.net/>>. In order to interpret the *Ifá* response, we will make use of Appendix A.

4.2 A reading: Doing a spiritual check-up

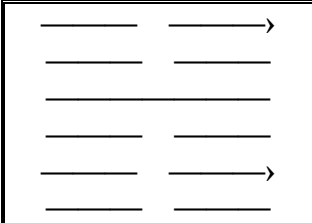
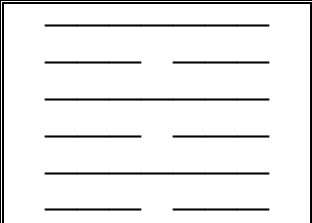
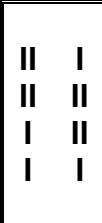
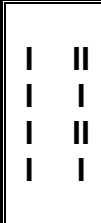
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On Monday, 02 February 2026 (*Ọsẹ Ifá*) at 02:32 pm, EST, I posed the following query:

Query: I divine about furthering my well-being.

FIGURE 4.2 presents the divination results.

FIGURE 4.2: The oracular responses

Primary Figure	Secondary Figure	Secondary	Primary
			
Hexagram 16 YÜ	Hexagram 64 WÈI JÌ	Òdí Ọwọ́nrín	Òfún Ogbè

The *Yi-Jīng* response is: Hexagram 16 (YÜ, ‘enthusiasm’) changing at Lines 2 and 6, thereby showing Hexagram 64 (WÈI JÌ, ‘not yet across the river’). For the primary hexagram, we have:

Enthusiasm. It is beneficial for the king to establish marquis titles of nobility in order to gather support and to mobilize an army. In the matter in question, achieving success depends on resonating with those who can give one proper support. Someone here ought to mobilize their army of support by invoking the heavenly hands that govern a successful outcome.

LINE 2. One is steady as a rock, and one has not yet finished the day – this is an omen of auspiciousness. YÜ bridges here to Hexagram 40 (JĪĒ, ‘setting free’). Someone here ought not to get caught up in an unwholesome current of thoughts and feelings. At the first sign of such danger, they ought to set themselves free without delay. They ought to be steady as a rock, and they ought to examine their situation so that they may respond properly.

LINE 6. Here is dark enthusiasm. Being all right requires changing one’s direction. There is no fault. YÜ bridges here to Hexagram 35 (JĪN, ‘advancing’). For someone here, their enthusiasm has no light to lead it in the proper direction. Nevertheless, if they get proper guidance and change their direction accordingly, then they will be able to make wholesome progress.

For the secondary hexagram, we have:

Not yet across the river. Make spiritual efforts to get divine help. The little fox nearly crosses the river; it gets its tail wet – there is nowhere that is beneficial. In the matter in question, follow the example of the old fox, who treads cautiously because it has learned that there may be more to the situation than meets the eye. Do not follow the example of the little fox, who overestimates its cleverness and rushes in overconfidently.

The *Ifá* response is: *Òfún Ogbè* supported by *Òdí Òwónrín*. The primary *Odù* tells us that: *Òfún* (acting with rectitude) helps *Ogbè* (a wholesome road). This *Odù* says that:

Egúngún (honorable ancestors) never damage a person. *Òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents) never cause a human being pain. It is mistakes (that is, wrong actions, beliefs, or judgments) alone that compel us to utter a very painful cry.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 22:5] Thorns (and) snares are in the path of a wayward one; one who watches over his spirit will be far from them.

The secondary *Odù* tells us that: *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) helps *Òwónrín* (walking honorably). This *Odù* says that:

It was ‘I am not going to die; it is life that I will be living’ who performed *Ifá* divination for Palm-tree (who symbolizes a child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom).

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ìbọ* for *Èlà*, the master of improving one’s life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy. It was in this manner that he would cause (his) base to be established. It was in this manner that he would not die.

Palm-tree will be firmly rooted. Palm-tree will survive.

Extra: *Ifá* will help one to become soundly established in the earthly land of the living.

4.3 A reading: The prison-industrial complex

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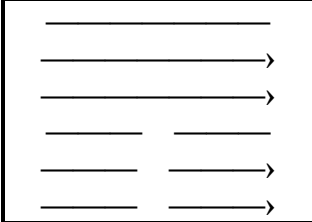
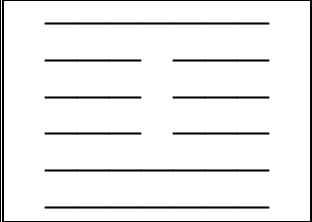
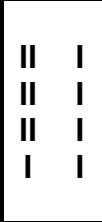
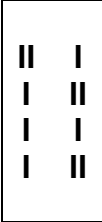
The prison-industrial complex is a network of actors who are motivated by making profit, instead of being motivated solely by punishing or rehabilitating criminals or by reducing crime rates.

On Sunday, 25 October 2015 (*Ọṣẹ Ọriṣànlá*), I posed the following query:

Query: Please comment on the prison-industrial complex in the United States of America as it relates to black people in this country.

FIGURE 4.3 presents the divination results.

FIGURE 4.3: The oracular responses

Primary Figure	Secondary Figure	Secondary	Primary
			
Hexagram 12 Pǐ	Hexagram 41 Sǔn	Ogbè Ọkànràn	Ọṣẹ Ọsá

The *Yi-Jing* response is: Hexagram 12 (Pǐ, ‘contrariness’) changing at Lines 1, 2, 4, and 5, thereby showing Hexagram 41 (Sǔn, ‘decreasing’). For the primary hexagram, we have:

The contrariness of unrighteous people. Something unbeneficial for the noble person is the oracular prediction. That which is great heads away; that which is small comes near. In the matter in question, noble influences are in decline, while ignoble influences can now rise to positions of great power. One ought not to give in to the prevailing forces of decadence. One ought not to compromise good standards.

LINE 1. One pulls out some grass and its attached roots because of their bunching together – this is an omen of auspiciousness. Make spiritual efforts to get divine help. Pǐ bridges here to Hexagram 25 (WÚ WÀNG, ‘unfalse’). ‘Blades of grass united at the roots’ symbolize those having similar values and goals. Inferior standards now prevail, and one may feel tempted to go along to get along. One ought to be strong. By rooting oneself in what is noble, one will attract the right associates.

LINE 2. One takes charge and takes the place of predecessors. Regarding the small person, this is auspicious. Regarding the great person, this is contrary to what is right and good. Make spiritual efforts to get divine help. Pǐ bridges here to Hexagram 06 (SÒNG, ‘contending’). Inferior standards have taken control and become the norm. Consequently,

people of good character and good judgment are in contention with the prevailing order of things.

LINE 4. One has a mandate – there is no fault. Comrades cling to blessings. Pǐ bridges here to Hexagram 20 (GUĀN, ‘scrutinizing’). In the matter in question, someone here is called to play a leading role in furthering positive change. Taking a thoughtful look at things will help them to take proper action. They will then attract the right associates.

LINE 5. One stops that which is contrary to what is right and good. Regarding the great person, this is auspicious. Will it (the contrariness) pass away, will it pass away? One ties oneself to a budding mulberry tree. Pǐ bridges here to Hexagram 35 (JĪN, ‘advancing’). The mulberry tree is a plant that protected Chinese dwellings from wind and rain. ‘Tying something to a mulberry tree’ means to secure it. Someone here is making progress in changing things for the better, but they ought not to take things for granted. They ought to secure their efforts by helping others to gain a firm footing.

For the secondary hexagram, we have:

Decreasing. One has an undeviating commitment – this is first-rate auspicious; there is no fault. Here is a fitting model to exemplify. It is beneficial to have a purposeful direction to go. What is it to be used? Two bamboo baskets of grain are fitting to be used to make a ritual offering for divine help. In the matter in question, someone here is called to develop their inner strength. In order to do so, they must decrease their emotionalism and sensualism. In this way, one will be able to enjoy worldly things without letting them control one.

The *Ifá* response is: *Òṣé Ọsá* supported by *Ogbè Ọkànràn*. The primary *Odù* tells us that: *Òṣé* (overcoming trouble) is helped by *Ọsá* (taking timely action). This *Odù* says that:

Whether *Òṣé* runs away or whether *Òṣé* does not run away, *Òṣé* will arrive at the place of the fight.

Ifá divination was performed for She-goat, Sheep, and Hen when they were going to the war of House-of-burs (which symbolizes trouble that sticks to oneself). It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. It was Hen alone who was behind doing *ẹbọ*.

They arrived at the war of House-of-burs. The war took She-goat. The war took Sheep. The war did not take Hen.

Extra: Do not involve yourself with anything that would bring you sticky trouble.

The secondary *Odù* tells us that: *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is hindered by *Ọkànràn* (touching trouble). This *Odù* says that:

It was ‘Withered *irókò* twigs’, the priest of *Ọrọ*-plant (which is a cactus-like plant), who performed *Ifá* divination for *Ọrọ*-plant, the one who was tender to be chewed in the mouth of the birds (a reference to bird-people), when she was in difficulty because of the birds.

It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*. She moreover did *ìpèsè*. When *Ọrọ*-plant had done *ẹbọ* completely, the birds were not able to drink her blood (which

had become skin-irritating sap) anymore. They were not moreover able to perch on her anymore (because she had developed a thorny exterior).

Travelers to *Ìpo* town, travelers to *Òfà* town, come join us in stirring up victory.

Ifà says that there is someone who is in difficulty because of *ẹlẹyẹ* (bird-people, a nickname of psychic agents). They do not allow that the person in question solve the problems of her life; they do not allow that she have importance. She ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She ought moreover to come doing *ìpèsè*. It is in this manner that she will overcome *ẹlẹyẹ*.

4.4 A reading: Racial relations in America

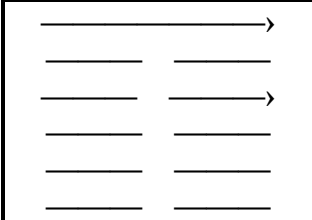
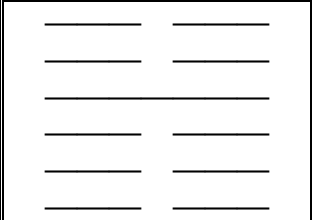
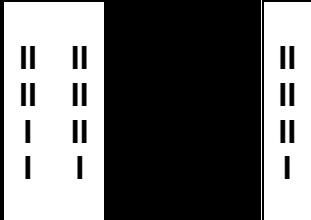
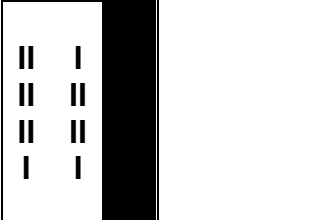
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On Saturday, 15 February 2025 (*Òsẹ Ifà*) at 07:58 am, EST, the following question formed in my mind:

Query: What are African Americans to learn from our historical interactions with Caucasian Americans in this country?

FIGURE 4.4 presents the divination results.

FIGURE 4.4: The oracular responses

Primary Figure	Secondary Figure	Secondary	Primary
			
Hexagram 23 Bō	Hexagram 16 Yù	Òkànràn Òwónrín	Òdí Òkànràn

The *Yi-Jing* response is: Hexagram 23 (Bō, ‘deteriorating’) changing at Lines 4 and 6, thereby showing Hexagram 16 (Yù, ‘enthusiasm’). For the primary hexagram, we have:

Deteriorating. It is not beneficial to have a purposeful direction to go. In the matter in question, there is a force of deterioration at work. If someone here does not deal with it properly, then they ought not to pursue any goals right now.

LINE 4. It deteriorates the bed at the surface skin – this is inauspicious. Bō bridges here to Hexagram 35 (Jīn, ‘advancing’). For someone here, a force of deterioration is weakening their well-being, and there is nothing that they can do to stop its advance. In spite of the trouble that it brings, they ought to take action that is aimed at faring well in the long run.

LINE 6. The large fruit is uneaten. The noble person gets a carriage; the small person deteriorates their small simple house. Bō bridges here to Hexagram 02 (KŪN, ‘submissiveness’). Deterioration has ended, and better times are returning. The uneaten large fruit symbolizes the seeds of improvement that have yet to take root. The spiritually mature person submits to the spirit of improvement and makes progress. The spiritually immature person rejects the spirit of improvement and loses stability.

For the secondary hexagram, we have:

Enthusiasm. It is beneficial for the king to establish marquis titles of nobility in order to gather support and to mobilize an army. In the matter in question, achieving success depends on resonating with those who can give one proper support. Someone here ought to mobilize their army of support by invoking the heavenly hands that govern a successful outcome.

The *Ifá* response is: *Òdí Òkànràn* supported by *Òkànràn Òwónrín*. The primary *Odu* tells us that: *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) helps *Òkànràn* (giving something good its turn). This *Odu* says that:

Òdí Òkànràn, Ifá divination was performed for ‘Mine will be good’.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover got initiated into *Ifá*. It was in this manner that great blessings would reach him.

Mine will be better than theirs! Mine will be better than that of deceitful people. Mine will be better than theirs!

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 16:20] One who gives attention to divine instruction will attain to what is good, and one who puts trust in *Ha’el* (God), how blessed is he!

The secondary *Odu* tells us that: *Òkànràn* (touching trouble) is hindered by *Òwónrín* (walking honorably). This *Odu* says that:

‘Let him do evil’ benefits the evildoer. ‘Let him do bad things’ benefits the doer of bad things. *Ifá* divination was performed for those of disobedience, who were saying that *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) was warning against trouble too much. It was what was in their minds that they were doing. They were doing evil. They were doing bad things. Things of the world were looking good for them. We (others) went reporting to *Èlà*.

Èlà said: “If it happens to take a long time on-and-on, then the dispenser of rewards will be coming around. He will solve burdens to the last one. He will do quietly his doing. When he happens to arrive, all of them (the wrongdoers) will run away.”

It was said that we ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that ‘Let him do evil’ and ‘Let him do bad things’ may not see the opportunity to enter our insides, so that companions and peers may not ridicule us in the end.

Extra: Do not allow negative influences to gain a foothold.

4.5 A reading: The coronavirus pandemic

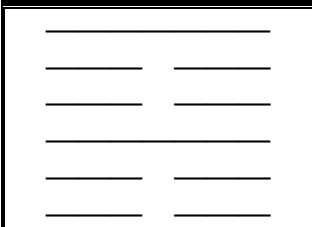
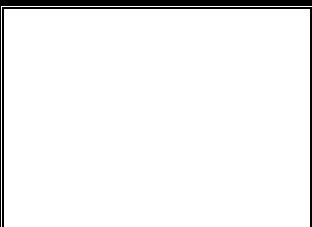
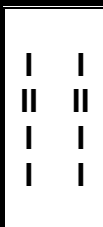
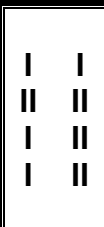
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On Tuesday, 17 March 2020 (*Ọsẹ Ifá*), I posed the following query:

Query: What is there for people to learn from the current pandemic of the COVID-19 virus?

FIGURE 4.5 presents the divination results.

FIGURE 4.5: The oracular responses

Primary Figure	Secondary Figure	Secondary	Primary
			
Hexagram 52 GÈN	None	Òtúrá Méjì	Òbàrà Òtúrá

The *Yi-Jing* response is: Hexagram 52 (GÈN, ‘keeping still’) with no changing lines. For the primary hexagram, we have:

Keeping one’s back still. One does not feel one’s body. One moves about one’s courtyard; one does not see one’s people. There is no fault. The back contains the nerve fibers that mediate movement. ‘Keeping the back still’ means to become oblivious to the influences that urge one to do things. In the matter in question, someone here ought to ‘keep their back still’ so that they may approach things with composure, instead of reacting according to habit or impulse. In this way, they will function within proper bounds.

Although there are no changing lines here, it is useful to read the messages of Lines 2 and 5 in order to aid our understanding:

LINE 2. One keeps one’s leg calves still. This does not help that which follows. One’s heart is not pleased. GÈN bridges here to Hexagram 18 (GŨ, ‘spoilage’). After charging into a situation impulsively, someone here now sees that they have moved in the wrong direction. They ought to ‘keep their leg calves still’ by stopping and reconsidering. Nevertheless, they cannot immediately halt the consequences of what they have already set in motion.

LINE 5. One keeps one’s jaws still; one’s words have a reasonable order. Regretting causes fault to pass away. GÈN bridges here to Hexagram 53 (JIÀN, ‘moving gradually’). The movement from thought to speech ought to be a gradual process. Someone here ought to give thought to their words and to speak only what is worthwhile to say.

In my book on the *Yi Jīng* Oracle, I associate the trigram GÈN (and hence the hexagram GÈN) with astrological Saturn, which represents restriction, structure, and slow change. In astrology, Saturn is the natural representative of chronic ailments, that which is old and decaying, and death. With regard to our query, Saturn refers to *Olóde* (also called *Babalúayé*), who is the *òrìṣà* of the outdoors. He punishes Man's excessive conduct with diseases, especially smallpox. I believe that the hexagram GÈN is the oracle's way of saying that the coronavirus pandemic is an activity of *Olóde*.

The *Ifá* response is: *Òbàrà Òtúrá* supported by *Òtúrá Méjì*. The primary *Odù* tells us that: *Òbàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity) helps *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation). This *Odù* says that:

It was 'One who kills and kills those of the farm', 'one who plucks them in town and plucks them in the countryside', who performed *Ifá* divination for 'Chicken head-of-household' and her children.

It was said: "An opponent who is more powerful than y'all, he is coming to meet y'all. If y'all happen to run away and leave town to go away to the countryside, then the opponent will again come looking for y'all in the countryside. But if y'all happen to do *ẹbọ*, then respect will comply with y'all."

It was said: "The hawk is not able to see causing the snail to be harmed. The hawk looks at the snail hostilely but being powerless to act."

The secondary *Odù* is the doubling of *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation). This *Odù* says that:

The log of the banana tree is free from the hands of the carpenter. The vulture is free from the hands of the meat-eater. The hair of the vagina is free from the hands of the hairdresser.

Ifá divination was performed for Slender-*òro*-tree (whose edible pulpy fruit is well-liked by *Yorùbá* people) of the deep forest, on whom people of the world would heap respect. It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that she may be able to get kept safe. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*.

I am free from their hands at this time. I am slippery like the *ẹkukù* leaf. I am free from their hands at this time.

4.6 A reading: The Osirian legend

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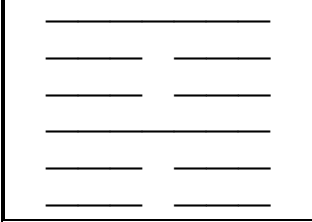
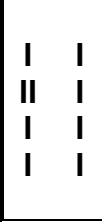
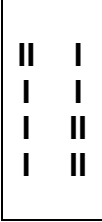
The legend of **Osiris** (Middle Egyptian *wsir*; Coptic *ousire*) was the premier story of the people of **Kemet** (Middle Egyptian *kmt*; Coptic *kēme*), or ancient Egypt. It is useful to view the characters of the Osirian legend as symbols of shaping forces that operate in Man's being. The character Osiris symbolizes Man's godself, which is the part of Man's being that shares in the divine attributes of omnipresence, omniscience, and omnipotence. One of the titles of Osiris is *Wennefer* (Middle Egyptian *wnn-nfrw*; Coptic *ouenofre*), which means both 'being of goodness' and 'being of perfection'. The Kemite pictorial portrayal of Osiris as a mummy symbolizes his incorruptibility against forces of decay.

On Wednesday, 19 November 2014 (*Òsẹ̀ Òrìṣànlá*), I posed the following query:

Query: Please give insight into the Osirian legend.

FIGURE 4.6 presents the divination results.

FIGURE 4.6: The oracular responses

Primary Figure	Secondary Figure	Secondary	Primary
			
Hexagram 52 GÈN	None	Ogbè Òtúrá	Ìrosùn Òsá

The *Yi-Jīng* response is: Hexagram 52 (GÈN, ‘keeping still’) with no changing lines. For the primary hexagram, we have:

Keeping one’s back still. One does not feel one’s body. One moves about one’s courtyard; one does not see one’s people. There is no fault. The back contains the nerve fibers that mediate movement. ‘Keeping the back still’ means to become oblivious to the influences that urge one to do things. In the matter in question, someone here ought to ‘keep their back still’ so that they may approach things with composure, instead of reacting according to habit or impulse. In this way, they will function within proper bounds.

Although there are no changing lines here, it is useful to read the messages of Lines 2 and 5 in order to aid our understanding:

LINE 2. One keeps one’s leg calves still. This does not help that which follows. One’s heart is not pleased. GÈN bridges here to Hexagram 18 (Gǔ, ‘spoilage’). After charging into a situation impulsively, someone here now sees that they have moved in the wrong direction. They ought to ‘keep their leg calves still’ by stopping and reconsidering. Nevertheless, they cannot immediately halt the consequences of what they have already set in motion.

LINE 5. One keeps one’s jaws still; one’s words have a reasonable order. Regretting causes fault to pass away. GÈN bridges here to Hexagram 53 (Jiàn, ‘moving gradually’). The movement from thought to speech ought to be a gradual process. Someone here ought to give thought to their words and to speak only what is worthwhile to say.

The *djed*-pillar hieroglyph (Middle Egyptian *ḏd*; Coptic *jōt*) means ‘stability’, and it symbolizes the backbone of Osiris. The *djed* pillar refers to ‘keeping the back still’.

The *Ifá* response is: *Ìrosùn Ọsá* supported by *Ogbè Ọtúrá*. The primary *Odù* tells us that: *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) helps *Ọsá* (taking timely action). This *Odù* says that:

A breeze caused the top of the tree to gasp. It was a strong wind that was pushing the leaves. It was the coconut that was refusing to fall.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọmọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to use calmness and sober thinking to handle life. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. It was in this manner that he would overcome opponents. It was in this manner that he would see the back side of blockages.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 112:7] Of bad tidings he (a righteous one) does not feel afraid; stable is his heart (that is, prevailing mental and emotional attitude), trust being put in *Ha'el* (God) to not fail.

The secondary *Odù* tells us that: *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) helps *Ọtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation). This *Odù* says that:

If a person has money, if he does not have character, then the money of someone else it is. Character, it is character that we are looking for, character! If a person begets children, if he does not have character, then the children of someone else they are. Character, it is character that we are looking for, character!

If a person builds a house, if he does not have character, then the house of someone else it is. Character, it is character that we are looking for, character! If a person has good things, if he does not have character, then the good things of someone else they are. Character, it is character that we are looking for, character!

Extra: 1. [an *Ifá* saying] *Ìwà rere l'òṣọ èyàn* (It is good character that is the adornment of a human being). 2. [*Dilogún* 8-15 revised] Bad character is what leads a man to fail in his endeavors.

4.7 A reading: The door to destiny

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On Tuesday, 29 October 2013 (*Ọsẹ Ọgún*), the following query was posed about someone whom I will refer to as AJL for the sake of anonymity:

Query: What is the most important thing for AJL to learn and master in order to open the way for him to fulfill his destiny?

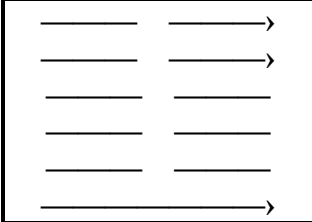
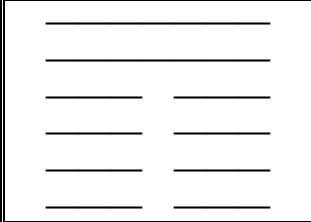
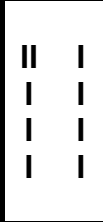
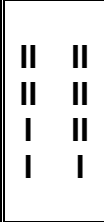
FIGURE 4.7 presents the divination results.

The *Yi-Jing* response is: Hexagram 24 (FÙ, 'returning') changing at Lines 1, 5, and 6, thereby showing Hexagram 20 (GUĀN, 'scrutinizing'). For the primary hexagram, we have:

Returning to soundness. Make spiritual efforts to get divine help. Going out and coming in do not have unhealthiness. Friends come without fault. Recurring is its path; in seven days, it comes returning. It is beneficial to have a purposeful direction to go. We see an example of *fù* in the winter solstice, which is the 'seventh day' after a six-month decline of the earth's ability to externally manifest her bounty. In this regard, *fù* refers to the resurgence of

yáng energy, which governs the ability to achieve things externally. If someone here has taken a wrong course, then time now favors them to return to what is proper. If they are undertaking something new, then their ability to turn plans into reality is just now returning from its low point, and so they ought to take timely action.

FIGURE 4.7: The oracular responses

Primary Figure	Secondary Figure	Secondary	Primary
			
Hexagram 24 FÙ	Hexagram 20 GUĀN	Ogbè Ìṣà	Òkànràn Òwónrín

LINE 1. One does not return to soundness from afar – there is no considerable regret; this is first-rate auspicious. FÙ bridges here to Hexagram 02 (KŪN, ‘submissiveness’). If someone here has taken a wrong course, then they ought not to go further. They ought to submit to following a suitable course of action.

LINE 5. One sincerely returns to soundness – there is no regret. FÙ bridges here to Hexagram 03 (ZHŪN, ‘the sprout’). For someone here, they ought to sincerely handle their shortcomings by sinking their roots deeply into what is proper.

LINE 6. One confusedly returns to soundness – this is inauspicious; they have a disastrous error. One applies oneself to mobilizing an army. The ending has a great defeat because of one’s national ruler – this is inauspicious. Going as far as ten years, one is not able to take military action again. FÙ bridges here to Hexagram 27 (YÍ, ‘nourishing’). If someone here misses this opportune time to return to what is proper, then they must wait for the next opportune time to come. Consequently, any efforts of change that they may make during the intermediate period will meet with failure.

For the secondary hexagram, we have:

Scrutinizing. One has washed in performing ablution, but so far, one has not made the ritual offering. One has an undeviating commitment that is solemn accordingly. The interval between performing ablution and performing the ritual offering offers the devotee an opportunity to ponder their life and to see that their faults are the things that they must sacrifice in order to live truth. In the matter in question, someone here ought to take a thoughtful look at things, seeking to get a broad view. Moreover, they ought to put trust in God and to do what is right.

The *Ifá* response is: *Òkànràn Òwónrín* supported by *Ogbè Òsá*. The primary *Odù* tells us that: *Òkànràn* (touching trouble) is hindered by *Òwónrín* (walking honorably). This *Odù* says that:

‘Let him do evil’ benefits the evildoer. ‘Let him do bad things’ benefits the doer of bad things. *Ifá* divination was performed for those of disobedience, who were saying that *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) was warning against trouble too much. It was what was in their minds that they were doing. They were doing evil. They were doing bad things. Things of the world were looking good for them. We (others) went reporting to *Èlà*.

Èlà said: “If it happens to take a long time on-and-on, then the dispenser of rewards will be coming around. He will solve burdens to the last one. He will do quietly his doing. When he happens to arrive, all of them (the wrongdoers) will run away.”

It was said that we ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that ‘Let him do evil’ and ‘Let him do bad things’ may not see the opportunity to enter our insides, so that companions and peers may not ridicule us in the end.

Extra: Do not allow negative influences to gain a foothold.

The secondary *Odù* tells us that: *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Òsá* (taking timely action). This *Odù* says that:

If affliction happens to be coming over an *Ifá* priest, then the *Ifá* priest ought not to lie. If affliction happens to be coming over an herb doctor, then the herb doctor ought not to deceive. A person ought not to lie; a person ought not to deceive. Because of the sleeping of our bodies (that is, our eventual passing) this is.

Ifá divination was performed for *Omọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) when People-of-ignorance were making fun of him. *Omọ-Èlà* was practicing righteousness, but he was doing everything for which (each) one did not find an answer. People-of-ignorance were practicing double-dealing, but they were doing everything to completion.

It was said that he ought not to cease practicing righteousness. He ought moreover to have patience. He ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. It was said: “If it happens to take a long time on-and-on, then the dispenser of rewards will be coming around. He will solve burdens to the last one.”

Extra: 1. [a saying from Martin Luther King Jr.] The time is always right to do what is right.
2. [The Bible, Proverbs 24:19-20] You ought not to rouse yourself to anger because of the wrongdoers (and) you ought not to be envious of the unrighteous ones, because there will not be a (good) ending for someone bad; the candle of unrighteous ones will be extinguished.

4.8 A reading: Performing *Ifá* divination

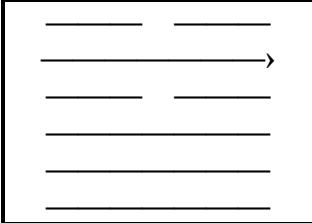
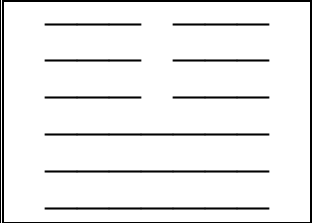
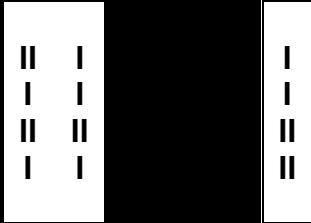
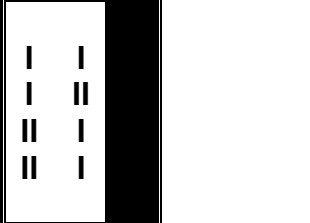
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On Sunday, 14 April 2013 (*Òsẹ̀ Òrìṣànlá*), I posed the following query:

Query: Please comment on what you require for a person to meet your approval to perform *Ifá* divination.

FIGURE 4.8 presents the divination results.

FIGURE 4.8: The oracular responses

Primary Figure	Secondary Figure	Secondary	Primary
			
Hexagram 05 XŪ	Hexagram 11 TÀI	Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀ Òfún	Òtúrá Ìrosùn

The *Yi-Jing* response is: Hexagram 05 (XŪ, ‘waiting in need’) changing at Line 5, thereby showing Hexagram 11 (TÀI, ‘peacefully prosperous’). For the primary hexagram, we have:

Waiting in need. One has an undeviating commitment. Making bright spiritual efforts to get divine help is an omen of auspiciousness. It is beneficial to ford great rivers. In the matter in question, someone here is advised to wait and to develop themselves spiritually. At the proper time, they will be able to successfully ‘ford great rivers’ (that is, undertake major endeavors).

LINE 5. One waits in need at wine and food – this is an omen of auspiciousness. XŪ bridges here to Hexagram 11 (TÀI, ‘peacefully prosperous’). A possible message here is that someone here ought to seek divine help through ritual offerings of food and drink. Another possible message here is that someone here ought to take a suitable break from a difficult situation in order to rest and recuperate.

For the secondary hexagram, we have:

Peacefully prosperous. That which is small heads away; that which is great comes near. It is auspicious to make spiritual efforts to get divine help. In the matter in question, ignoble influences are in decline, while noble influences can now rise to positions of great power.

The *Ifá* response is: Òtúrá Ìrosùn supported by Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀ Òfún. The primary *Odù* tells us that: Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) helps Ìrosùn (patiently persevering through difficulty). This *Odù* says that:

It was Subtly who performed *Ifá* divination for those at an impasse. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that everything that they were going to do, it may not make an impasse. They did not do *ẹbọ*.

It was in this manner that they dealt with a matter of money, and it became an impasse. They moreover dealt with a matter of spouses, and it became an impasse also. Everything that they were dealing with, it was arriving at an impasse.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may not get seeing a matter of impasse, so that a thing that he takes hold of, it may not get free from his hands and he not moreover be able to hold on to anything.

Extra: [an *Ifá* saying] *Rírú ẹbọ ni ígbè ẹni; àìrú kì ígbè èniyàn* (It is doing *ẹbọ* that benefits a person; not doing it never benefits a person).

Moreover, the primary *Odù* tells us that: *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty). This *Odù* says that:

Òtúrá glows very red. *Ìrosùn* glows very red.

Ifá divination was performed for White-cloth (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness), who was headed for a life of not having disgrace. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

The wearer of white cloth never goes sitting down in the market stall of the palm-oil seller.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 37:23-24] Because of *Ha'el* (God), the steps of a heroic person are made firm, and in his (the person's) path does he (*Ha'el*) take pleasure. Although he (the person) may stumble, he will not be thrown down, because *Ha'el* is one who props up his hand.

The secondary *Odù* tells us that: *Ìrẹtẹ* (making one's mark) hinders *Òfún* (efforts of limited success). This *Odù* says that:

The *irúnmolẹ* (divine ministerial agents) and *Orí Ẹlédàá* (Man's godself) were going to the town of Life-fulfilment. *Orí* alone arrived there.

Therefore, *Orí* is 'hotter' than *òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents). It is *Orí* alone who takes them (people) to life fulfilment. There is no *òrìṣà* who is sufficient in supporting behind the back of one's *Orí*. *Orí* is indeed 'hotter' than *òrìṣà*.

Extra: The power of God is within you, and so you can transcend any circumstance, habit, or personality trait. Attune yourself to *Orí Ẹlédàá* (Man's godself) so that you may fully develop your life potential.

APPENDIX A

Some Ìdáfá messages

Introduction

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In this appendix, I use excerpts of *Ifá* stories together with wise sayings to present oracular messages from a limited number of *Odù*. Note that because each *Odù* has numerous associated stories, it is possible that the story presented here is not the one that pertains to your situation.

TABLE A: Themes of the sixteen Ìdáfá words

Word	Themes
<i>Ogbè</i>	A wholesome road.
<i>Òyèkú</i>	Averting ruin. Not missing out on bright possibilities.
<i>Ìwòrì</i>	Good things becoming seen. Seeing things clearly.
<i>Òdí</i>	Blockage or enemies. Having a sound foundation.
<i>Ìrosùn</i>	Patiently persevering through difficulty.
<i>Òwónrín</i>	Taking measured action. Walking honorably.
<i>Òbàrà</i>	Asserting oneself with dignity.
<i>Òkànràn</i>	Giving something good its turn. Touching trouble.
<i>Ògúndá</i>	Clearing a way. Having the courage to take right action.
<i>Òsá</i>	Running away from a challenge. Taking timely action.
<i>Ìká</i>	Ill conduct or ill luck. Reaping a reward
<i>Òtúrúpòn</i>	Being productive.
<i>Òtúrá</i>	Averting a worrisome situation.
<i>Ìrètè</i>	Making one's mark. Practicing <i>Ifá</i> . Unwholesome influences.
<i>Òṣẹ</i>	Overcoming through joyful optimism. Overcoming trouble.
<i>Òfún</i>	Acting righteously and judiciously. Efforts of limited success.

Each *Odù* describes a situation. Its right (masculine) leg indicates the foremost aspect of the situation, while its left (feminine) leg indicates pertinent circumstances. For your *Odù* of interest, use the themes of TABLE A to examine possible meanings. For example, *Ogbè Òkànràn* is an *Odù*

that could mean that *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Òkànràn* (giving something good its turn). Moreover, *Ogbè Òkànràn* could mean that *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is hindered by *Òkànràn* (touching trouble).

Appendix-A hyperlinks

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A01 Ogbè as the right leg	A09 Ògúndá as the right leg
A02 Òyèkú as the right leg	A10 Òsá as the right leg
A03 Ìwòrì as the right leg	A11 Ìká as the right leg
A04 Òdí as the right leg	A12 Òtúrúpòn as the right leg
A05 Ìrosùn as the right leg	A13 Òtúrá as the right leg
A06 Òwónrín as the right leg	A14 Ìretè as the right leg
A07 Òbàrà as the right leg	A15 Òsé as the right leg
A08 Òkànràn as the right leg	A16 Òfún as the right leg

A01 Ogbè as the right leg

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Èjì Ogbè	Ogbè Ìrosùn	Ogbè Ògúndá	Ogbè Òtírà
Ogbè Òyèkú	Ogbè Òwónrín	Ogbè Òsá	Ogbè Ìretè
Ogbè Ìwòrì	Ogbè Òbàrà	Ogbè Ìká	Ogbè Òsé
Ogbè Òdí	Ogbè Òkànràn	Ogbè Òtúrúpòn	Ogbè Òfún

Èjì Ogbè

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.01a *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is doubled.

Kí a má fí kánjúkánjú jẹ ayé. Kí a má fí wàràwàrà ta okùn ọrọ. Ohun tí àbá fí ẹ àgbà, kí a má fí ẹ ikánjú.

We ought not to use haste to enjoy life. We ought not to use haste to shoot for the royal beads of wealth. The thing that we ought to do maturely (that is, with due consideration and know-how), we ought not to do (it) hastily.

Bí a bá dé ibi tí ó tutù, kí a simi-simi. Kí a wò ijọ iwájú títílo. Kí a tún rò èyìn ọràn wò. Nítorí àtisùn ara ẹni ni.

If we happen to reach a place that is cool, then we ought to rest fully. We ought to look at the days ahead continually. We ought to work at carefully considering the back end of matters (that is, how matters will turn out). Because of the sleeping of our bodies (that is, our eventual passing) this is.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 21:5] Plans of a diligent one surely are headed for gain, but everyone who makes haste surely is headed for deficiency.

01.01b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is doubled.

Èbìtì já fí àyà lù ilẹ.

The animal trap fell and used (its) chest to hit the ground. [Note: The animal trap here has actually fallen flat on its face. ‘Falling flat on one’s face’ idiomatically means ‘to fail completely in an attempt to do something, especially in an embarrassing way’].

A dífá fún Yèyè ‘Alẹ̀ tì lẹ̀’, tí ifi omi ojú sògbéré ire, tí ísọ ìretí nù. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Èlà, alátúnṣe ayé, asọ-ọrọ-di-ayọ.

Ifà divination was performed for Mother ‘Night has not yet fallen’, who was using teardrops to cry about good things, who was losing hope. It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*. She moreover did *ibọ* for Èlà (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the master of improving one’s life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy.

Kò pé; kò jinnà. Ire gbogbo wá yá dé tùtúru.

It did not take long; it was not far away. Every good thing came flooding in to arrive plentifully.

Ñjẹ, alẹ ajẹ kì ilẹ fún awo – èhìn wà. Kí ẹni má rò Èdú pin – èhìn wà. Alẹ aya kì ilẹ fún awo – èhìn wà. Kí ẹni má rò Èdú pin – èhìn wà.

Therefore, the night (that is, loss of opportunity) of money never falls for a priest – the future exists. We ought not to write *Èdú* (Jet-black, a name of *Èlà*) off – the future exists. The night of spouses never falls for a priest – the future exists. We ought not to write *Èdú* off – the future exists.

Alẹ ọmọ kì ilẹ fún awo – èhìn wà. Kí ẹni má rò Èdú pin – èhìn wà. Alẹ ire gbogbo kì ilẹ fún awo – èhìn wà. Kí ẹni má rò Èdú pin – èhìn wà.

The night of children never falls for a priest – the future exists. We ought not to write *Èdú* off – the future exists. The night of every good thing never falls for a priest – the future exists. We ought not to write *Èdú* off – the future exists.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 55:22] Cast upon *Ha'el* (God) your matter of concern, and he will sustain you; he will not permit for long the losing of footing for the righteous one.

Ogbè Òyèkú

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.02 *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) helps *Òyèkú* (not missing out on bright possibilities).

Ogbè Òyèkú ni bàbá àmúlù. Orí ogbó, orí atọ ni bàbá ẹdan. Ọşọrọ ni bàbá ọjò.

It is *Ogbè Òyèkú* that is the father of *Odù* combinations. It is a destiny of longevity and a destiny of vitality that are the fathers of an *Ògbóni* staff (which could last in an *Ògbóni* spiritual house for several hundred years). It is a torrent that is the father of rain.

A dífá fún Kìniún, tí yóò fí itọ gbà ijù lówọ ẹranko. Gbogbo àwọn ẹranko ni íṣáátá Kìniún. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó baà lè l'ówọ lójú àwọn ẹgbẹ rẹ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Lion, who would use urine to take over the wilderness from the hands of the wild animals. It was all of the wild animals who were belittling Lion. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to have respect in the presence of his associates. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Nígbà tí Kìniún rúbọ tán, bí ó bá dùbúlẹ s'íbi kibi, yóò maa tò yí ara ká. Bí ẹranko bá ti dá itọ kọjá, yóò di òkú.

When Lion had done *ẹbọ* completely, if he happened to lie down at any place, then he would keep urinating all around himself. If a wild animal happened to have passed over the urine, then it would become a corpse.

Báyí ni Kìniún di ẹni ẹrù láárín àwọn ẹranko. Bí wọn bá gbọ ohùn rẹ, ẹrù ọò bá wọn. Láti igbà náà ni Kìniún ti jọba lórí gbogbo ẹranko.

It was in that manner that Lion became a person of fear among the wild animals. If they happened to hear his voice, then fear would meet them. It is since that time that Lion has reigned over every wild animal.

Ẹbọ: Fi ìgò ọtí méjì àti owó. Fi àkóse Ifá.

An ẹbọ: Use two bottles of alcoholic beverage and money. Use *Ifá* medicine.

Àkóse Ifá: Gbo ewé ọwọ sínú akèrègbè omi. Dà ọtí sí i fún mímu.

Ifá medicine: Juice ọwọ leaves (*Brillantaisia patula*: used to bring respect to someone) into a calabash of water. Pour alcoholic beverage to it for drinking.

Extra: Take your rightful place of importance and respect.

Ogbè Ìwòrì

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.03 Ogbè (a wholesome road) helps Ìwòrì (good things becoming seen; seeing things clearly).

Ogbè Wẹ̀yìn, a dífá fún Àdímú nígbà tí kò lè ká ayé nítorí tí kò dì Òrìṣànlá mú.

Ogbè Wẹ̀yìn ('Ogbè looks backward', same as Ogbè Ìwòrì), *Ifá* divination was performed for Taking-hold when he was not able to handle life successfully because he was not taking hold of Òrìṣànlá (the òrìṣà of moral sense).

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì tàn fitilá fún Òrìṣànlá. Báyii ni Òrìṣànlá óò tàn iná ire fún un.

It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. He heard; he did ẹbọ. He moreover lit a candle for Òrìṣànlá. It was in this manner that Òrìṣànlá would light the fire of good things for him.

Ọfọ: Òrìṣànlá pẹ̀lẹ́, bàntà-banta nínú àlà. Ọdúnńí l'Òrìṣànlá tàn iná ire fún mí.

Incantation: Hail Òrìṣànlá, the immense one in white clothing (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness). It is this year that Òrìṣànlá lights the fire of good things for me.

Àkóse Ifá: Lọ ewé ẹ́funṣẹ́fun. Pẹ ọfọ nàá s'ẹ̀tù yí tí o ti tẹ lí Ogbè Ìwòrì. Dà ẹ̀tù yí sínú ọ̀kan nínú fitilá pẹ̀lú òrí. Tàn fitilá yí l'ọ̀jó méje.

Ifá medicine: Grind ẹ́funṣẹ́fun leaves (*Aerva lanata*: used to attract prosperity and to ward off negative energy) into a powder. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to this powder that you have imprinted with Ogbè Ìwòrì. Pour this powder into a candle together with shea butter (which is used to dispel negative energy and to attract positive energy). Light the candle for 7 days.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 21:21] One who runs after righteousness and loving-kindness attains to life, prosperity, and honor.

Ogbè Ọ̀dí

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.04a Ogbè (a wholesome road) is hindered by Ọ̀dí (blockage or enemies).

Ogbè Ọ̀dí pẹ̀rẹ̀pẹ̀, a dífá fún Orí-àpéré, tí ó kúnlẹ́, tí ó yàn ipín rẹ́, tí elénìní kò jẹ́kí ó ẹ́ ẹ́.

Ogbè Ọ̀dí abundantly, *Ifá* divination was performed for Personal-destiny, who knelt (before God), who chose his portion in life, whom people of ill will did not allow that he carry it out.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Lẹhìn tí ó rúbọ tán, ohun gbogbo tí íṣe, ó gún, ó l'ónà.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. After he had done *ẹbọ* completely, everything that he was doing, it became right, it had a road (to success).

Ifá ní òun rí aláròmọ tí kò fẹ kí a ẹ nkan ẹni. Ifá ní òun bá ẹni ẹṣgun aláròmọ náà. Ifá ní kí a wá rúbọ.

Ifá says that he sees an ill-wisher (that is, one who desires ill luck to another) who does not want that we do something of ours. *Ifá* says that he will join us in overcoming the aforementioned ill-wisher. *Ifá* says that we ought to come doing *ẹbọ*.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will overcome someone or something that is working against their best interests.

01.04b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Òdì* (having a sound foundation).

Jéjé ni mo lọ. Jéjé ni mo bọ.

It is peacefully that I went. It is peacefully that I returned.

A dífá fún Àríwọ, tí ígbógún lọ sí Ìtì. A ní kò níní ńwọ bọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Fruit-plucking-stick, who was leading an army to the Fruit-tree. It was said that he would not be empty-handed on return.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì ẹ jéjé. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to be peaceful. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Láti ìgbà náà ni Àríwọ kò ti ńwọ bí ó bá nà sókè fà ohunkóhun.

It is since that time that Fruit-plucking-stick has not yet been empty-handed if he happens to reach upward to pull down anything whatsoever.

Ifá ní a ńwọ sí nkan. Kí a wá rúbọ kí a má baà pòfo nínú ohun tí a ńwọ sí.

Ifá says that we are stretching our hands out to something. We ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that we may not fail in the thing to which we are stretching out our hands.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, success is within reach.

Ogbè Ìrosùn

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.05a *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) helps *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Àlùkínrínjìn l'ó dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ibi má bá bá a fi ẹsẹ wọ ilé rẹ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was *Àlùkínrínjìn* who performed *Ifá* divination for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that bad things may not happen to join him in using the feet to enter his house. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

A ẹ àkóse Ifá fún Ọmọ-Èlà. A ẹ fitílà ịṣẹgun fún un kí ó tàn án l'álaalẹ.

Ifá medicine was made for Ọmọ-Èlà. A candle of victory was made for him so that he may light it every night.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 16:17] The high way of upright ones is to turn themselves aside from what is bad; one who watches over his spirit is one who safeguards his conduct.

01.05b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Message: [*Dilogún* 8-4] He who corrects his shortcomings transforms his enemies.

Ogbè Ọwónrín

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.06a *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ọwónrín* (taking measured action).

Ọní, Ogbè nkùn sínú. Ọla, Ogbè nkùn sínú. Ẹ jẹkí a fi ohun Ogbè fún Ogbè kí ó baà yé kùn.
Today, *Ogbè* is muttering discontentedly. Tomorrow, *Ogbè* is muttering discontentedly.
Allow that we give the things of *Ogbè* to *Ogbè* (that is, give *Ogbè* his due) so that he may cease grumbling.

Extra: Described here is someone who has not been receiving something deserved.

01.06b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) helps *Ọwónrín* (walking honorably).

Ifá ní kí a má fi ojú tẹmbélú ẹnìkẹni.

Ifá says that we ought not to use (our) eyes to belittle anyone.

Extra: Do not look down on anyone.

Ogbè Ọbàrà

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.07 *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ọbàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity).

Ìmọ̀nà mọ̀nà sán kàn ilẹ̀. Ìmọ̀nà mọ̀nà sán kàn ọ̀run.

Lightning flashes and touches the earth. Lightning flashes and touches the sky.

A dífá fún Igún n'íjọ tí ibò l'óde ayé. A ní àkókò tí ojú bá maa tì í, tí ebi bá maa pa á, n'ìṣẹ̀lẹ̀ ọ̀ò ṣe. A kò ní gbọ́ ikú Igún. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for Vulture on the day when she was coming to earth town. It was said that the time when shame happened to be coming over her, when hunger happened to be overwhelming her, it was then when an event would happen. We will not hear of the death of Vulture. It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*.

Ifá ní ẹnìkàn wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí bí ojú bá tì í, ẹnìkẹ̀jì rẹ̀ ọ̀run baà lè rán lówọ́.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that if shame happens to come over him, then his companion of heaven may be able to render help.

Ogbè Ọkànràn

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.08a *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ọkànràn* (giving something good its turn).

Ogbè ñkàn ọràn.

Ogbè is touching the matter (firmly).

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí olúwarè sì wá ẹ ibọ fún Orí Ẹlédàá. Báyii l'ayé rẹ òò di rere. Orí Ẹlédàá ni írò ẹni tààrà fi í jọba.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. The person in question ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Orí Ẹlédàá* (Man's godself). It is in this manner that his life in the world will become that which is good. It is *Orí Ẹlédàá* who considers a person straightway to cause him to be enthroned as the king (of his own life).

Orí pẹlẹ, atètè níran, atètè gbè ẹni kí òòṣà. Kò sí òrìṣà tí ó tó gbè lẹyin Orí ẹni.

Hail *Orí*, the one who quickly remembers (a person), the one who quickly supports a person before *òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents). There is no *òrìṣà* who is sufficient to give support behind the back of one's *Orí*.

Extra: By attuning yourself to *Orí Ẹlédàá*, you take noble charge of the powers within your being.

01.08b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is hindered by *Ọkànràn* (touching trouble).

Ìṣẹ́pẹ́ irókò, awo Ọrọ́, l'ó dífá fún Ọrọ́, arẹ-bùjẹ l'ẹnu ọmọ ẹyẹ, nígbàtí ibẹ nínú ìṣòro nítorí àwọn ọmọ ẹyẹ.

It was 'Withered *irókò* twigs', the priest of *Ọrọ́*-plant (which is a cactus-like plant), who performed *Ifá* divination for *Ọrọ́*-plant, the one who was tender to be chewed in the mouth of the birds (a reference to bird-people), when she was in difficulty because of the birds.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ipèsè. Nígbàtí Ọrọ́ rúbọ tán, àwọn ọmọ ẹyẹ kò lè mu ẹjẹ rẹ mọ. Wọn kò sì lè bà lé e mọ.

It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*. She moreover did *ipèsè*. When *Ọrọ́*-plant had done *ẹbọ* completely, the birds were not able to drink her blood (which had become skin-irritating sap) anymore. They were not moreover able to perch on her anymore (because she had developed a thorny exterior).

Èrò Ìpo, èrò Ọfà, ẹ wá bá ẹni ní àrúṣẹgun.

Travelers to *Ìpo* town, travelers to *Ọfà* town, come join us in stirring up victory.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí ibẹ nínú ìṣòro nítorí àwọn ẹlẹyẹ. Wọn kò jẹkí olúwarè rí ojútúú ayé rẹ; wọn kò jẹkí ó ní láárí. Kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ẹ ipèsè. Báyii ni yóò ṣẹgun àwọn ẹlẹyẹ.

Ifá says that there is someone who is in difficulty because of *ẹlẹyẹ* (bird-people, a nickname of psychic agents). They do not allow that the person in question solve the problems of her life; they do not allow that she have importance. She ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She ought moreover to come doing *ipèsè*. It is in this manner that she will overcome *ẹlẹyẹ*.

Ìpèsè: Fi epo, obì méjọ, òkété, àti orógbó pèsè fún ẹlẹyẹ.

An *ìpèsè*: Use palm oil (which is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly), 8 kola nuts (which are used to further peaceful prosperity), a giant rat, and a bitter-kola nut to provide for *ẹlẹyẹ*.

Ogbè Ògúndá

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.09 *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ògúndá* (having the courage to take right action).

Ìbínú kò dá nkan rere fún ẹni. Sùúrù ní bàbá ìwà. Ẹni tí ó ní sùúrù, yóò jẹ ogbó, yóò jẹ atọ.

Anger does not produce anything good for a person. It is patience that is the father of (good) character. The person who has patience, he will enjoy longevity, he will enjoy vitality.

A dífá fún Ìwà. A bù fún Orí. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ kí Ìwà má baà bínú kí ó bà Orí jẹ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Character. It (this divination) was shared with Personal-destiny. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that Character may not get angry and consequently ruin Personal-destiny. They heard; they did *ẹbọ*.

Ọfọ: Ìwà nìkan l'ó sọrọ. Orí kì ìburú lí Òtu-Ifẹ. Ìwà nìkan l'ó sọrọ.

Incantation: It is character alone that speaks. Personal destiny is never bad in *Ilé-Ifẹ* (a *Yorùbá* town that symbolizes earthly life). It is character alone that speaks.

Àkóse Ifá: Pò ewé ọdúndún, ewé tètè, ẹkọ, àti òrí pò sínú omi. Pè ọfọ náà s'ìyẹròsùn tí o ti tẹ lí Ogbè Ògúndá. Pò ìyẹròsùn yíi pẹlú àpòpọ náà. Fì owó kan bọ àkópọ yíi. Lẹhin tí o fì owó yíi kàn idodo rẹ, fì í n'ídí Èṣù. Mu àkópọ náà.

Ifá medicine: Mix *ọdúndún* leaves (*Kalanchoe pinnata*: used to cool down 'hot' or negative situations), *tètè* leaves (*Amaranthus viridis*: used to dispel negative energy), maize porridge, and shea butter (which is used to dispel negative energy and to attract positive energy) together into water. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to *ìyẹròsùn* that you have imprinted with *Ogbè Ògúndá*. Mix this *ìyẹròsùn* together with the aforementioned mixture. Dip one cowry into this combination. After using this cowry to touch your navel, put it at the base of the prime talisman of *Èṣù* (the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests). Drink the aforementioned combination.

Extra: **1.** [The Bible, Proverbs 29:22] A person of anger stirs up contention, and one possessing the heat of anger is someone abundant in rebellious action. **2.** It is your character that makes or breaks you.

Ogbè Ọsá

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.10a *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ọsá* (taking timely action).

Bí ojú bá ńpọn babaláwo, kí babaláwo má purọ. Bí ojú bá ńpọn onísẹ̀gùn, kí babaláwo má ẹ̀kẹ́. Kí ẹni má purọ; kí ẹni má ẹ̀kẹ́. Nítorí àtisùn ara ẹni nì.

If affliction happens to be coming over an *Ifá* priest, then the *Ifá* priest ought not to lie. If affliction happens to be coming over an herb doctor, then the herb doctor ought not to deceive.

A person ought not to lie; a person ought not to deceive. Because of the sleeping of our bodies (that is, our eventual passing) this is.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà nígbà tí Ẹni-àimọ ní í rẹrín. Ọmọ-Èlà n̄sòdodo, sùgbón ó n̄se ohun gbogbo tí ọkan kò yànjú. Ẹni-àimọ n̄se àbòsì, sùgbón wón n̄se ohun gbogbo tán.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) when People-of-ignorance were making fun of him. Ọmọ-Èlà was practicing righteousness, but he was doing everything for which (each) one did not find an answer. People-of-ignorance were practicing double-dealing, but they were doing everything to completion.

A ní kí ó má dẹkun iṣòdodo. Kí ó sì ní sùúrù. Kí ó wá rúbọ. A ní: “Bí ó bá pẹ títí, ẹlẹsan òò maa bọwá àyíká. Yóò tùmọ l’erù kalẹ.”

It was said that he ought not to cease practicing righteousness. He ought moreover to have patience. He ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. It was said: “If it happens to take a long time on-and-on, then the dispenser of rewards will be coming around. He will solve burdens to the last one.”

Extra: **1.** [a saying from Martin Luther King Jr.] The time is always right to do what is right. **2.** [The Bible, Proverbs 24:19-20] You ought not to rouse yourself to anger because of the wrongdoers (and) you ought not to be envious of the unrighteous ones, because there will not be a (good) ending for someone bad; the candle of unrighteous ones will be extinguished.

01.10b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ọsá* (taking timely action).

Ogbè sá rẹ ilé. Ọsá sá rẹ oko. A dífá fún Ẹni-ayé-kàn. A bù fún Ẹ-é-rere.

Ogbè ran away to go to the town. *Ọsá* ran away to go to the countryside. *Ifá* divination was performed for ‘One to whom life gives his turn of opportunity’. It (this divination) was shared with Do-it-well.

Ẹ-é-rere, gbé ẹrù rere o! Ẹni-ayé-kàn, ẹ ẹ-é-ayé ire. Bí ó jẹ iwọ l’ayé kàn, kí o ẹ-é-ayé ire. Bí ó jẹ èmi l’ayé kàn, kí N ẹ-é-ayé ire. Ẹ-é-rere, gbé ẹrù rere o! Ẹni-ayé-kàn, ẹ ẹ-é-ayé ire.

Do it well, carry the load well! ‘One to whom life gives his turn of opportunity’, make a world of good things. If it is you to whom life gives your turn, then you ought to make a world of good things. If it is me to whom life gives my turn, then I ought to make a world of good things. Do it well, carry the load well! ‘One to whom life gives his turn of opportunity’, make a world of good things.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 3:27] You ought not to withhold what is good from its owners (that is, those to whom it is due), in that it has come to be in the power of your hand to do (it).

Ogbè Ìká

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.11 *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) hinders *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck).

Ogbè, kí a rẹ ilé, ọmọ ọṣin. Ogbè, kí a rẹ ilé, ọmọ ọrà. Ogbè, kí a rẹ ilé, ọmọ aláṣòkò Ọgún lélé alẹde.

Ogbè, let us go home, child of one who has everyone at his command. *Ogbè*, let us go home, child of one who is living his life to the fullest. *Ogbè*, let us go home, child of the keeper of

the *akòko* tree (whose leaves confer honor, renown, and a life of longevity and vitality) of *Ògún* (the *òrìṣà* of iron and war) on the ground outside in front.

Ẹṣin gbé ọwọ jó, ùgbón kò jó. Àdiyẹ gbé ẹsẹ gẹ, ùgbón ẹsẹ má yẹ.

The horse lifted (his) hands to dance, but he did not dance. The hen lifted (her) legs to sit comfortably, but (her) legs did not move.

A dífá fún Ogbè nígbà tí iṣe ayé èlẹ kákááká, tí iṣe ayé èlẹ bí ọta. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Èlà, asọ-ọrọ-di-ayọ.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ogbè* when he was experiencing a life of hardship of scanty-scanty, when he was experiencing a life of hardship like a stone. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the one who converts trouble into joy.

Kò pé; kò jìnnà. Ire gbogbo wá yá dé tùtùru.

It did not take long; it was not far away. Every good thing came flooding in to arrive plentifully.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, hardship will give way to peaceful prosperity.

Ogbè Òtúrúpòn

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.12a *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) helps *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive).

Ogbè, tún ọmọ pòn. Ogbè, tún ọmọ sún. Àgbàpòn kò lérè. Bí ọmọ bá nké, iyá l'aa gbé e fún.

Ogbè, work at back-carrying (your) child. *Ogbè*, work at adjusting (your) child. Receiving and back-carrying (someone else's child) are not rewarding. If a child happens to be crying out, then it is the mother to whom we will hand him over.

A dífá fún Àpáta-àdìrò, àwọn tí ó kọ ògiri wọn sílẹ. Ohun gbogbo tí a fí lórí wọn, ó já nínú iná.

Ifá divination was performed for Hearthstones (two stones that form a triangular fireplace with the side of a wall), the ones who abandoned their wall (in order to go it alone). Everything that was put on top of them, it fell into the fire.

Kíni Àpáta-àdìrò lè ẹ kí ayé baà lè yẹ wọn? A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ. Kí wọn sì gbé ògiri pòn tímótímọ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ. Wọn sì padà sí ògiri wọn.

What was it that Hearthstones were able to do so that life may be able to be right for them? It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. They ought moreover to pick up (their) wall to back-carry it closely. They heard; they did *ẹbọ*. They moreover returned to their wall.

Ìgbà tí Àpáta-àdìrò gbé ògiri pòn, l'a bá ńní ire gbogbo.

It was the time when Hearthstones picked up the wall to back-carry it, that we happened to be having every good thing.

Extra: One cannot fare well single-handedly – one needs the right help.

01.12b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) helps *Òtúrúpon* (being productive).

Ẹsẹ ibi kò yà sílé aláta. Ẹsẹ ibi kò yà sílé onírú. Ẹsẹ ibi kò yà sílé oníyò.

The feet of bad spirits do not branch off to the house of the pepper seller. The feet of bad spirits do not branch off to the house of the seller of locust-bean spice. The feet of bad spirits do not branch off to the house of the salt seller.

Ifà ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí olúwarẹ sì wá ẹ ibọ fún Ẹlà, asọ-òrọ-di-ayọ. Báyiì ní yóò bọ lésẹ ibi.

Ifà says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. The person in question ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Ẹlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the one who converts trouble into joy. It is in this manner that he will be free from the feet of bad spirits.

Ẹbọ: Fi ata diẹ, irú diẹ, àti iyọ diẹ.

An *ẹbọ*: Use a little pepper, a little locust-bean spice, and a little salt.

Ogbè Òtúrá

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.13 *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) helps *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

Bí ẹnì lówó, bí kò n'íwà, owó olówó ni. Ìwà, iwà l'a n'wá o, iwà! Bí ẹnì bímọ, bí kò n'íwà, ọmọ ọlómọ ni. Ìwà, iwà l'a n'wá o, iwà!

If a person has money, if he does not have character, then the money of someone else it is. Character, it is character that we are looking for, character! If a person begets children, if he does not have character, then the children of someone else they are. Character, it is character that we are looking for, character!

Bí ẹnì kólé, bí kò n'íwà, ilé onílé ni. Ìwà, iwà l'a n'wá o, iwà! Bí ẹnì n'íre, bí kò n'íwà, ire oníre ni. Ìwà, iwà l'a n'wá o, iwà!

If a person builds a house, if he does not have character, then the house of someone else it is. Character, it is character that we are looking for, character! If a person has good things, if he does not have character, then the good things of someone else they are. Character, it is character that we are looking for, character!

Extra: 1. [an *Ifà* saying] *Ìwà rere l'òṣọ èyàn* (It is good character that is the adornment of a human being). 2. [*Dilogún* 8-15 revised] Bad character is what leads a man to fail in his endeavors.

Ogbè Ìrètẹ

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01.14 *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) hinders *Ìrètẹ* (unwholesome influences).

Bí iwájú ikà bá dára l'áyé, ẹyìn ikà kò níí sunwọ́n. A kì ifi ikà dì ẹrù kí ó gún gégé.

If the front part of evil happens to be good-looking in life, then the back part of evil will not be good. We never use evil to tie a load (for undertaking a journey) for it to be exactly right.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-òtítọ-inú, ọmọ afi ìrètẹ tẹlẹ, nígbàtí ohun ayé ndára fún aṣe-ibi, nígbàtí aṣe-rere nbùkù. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì ní sùùrù.

Ifá divination was performed for Child-of-truthfulness, child of the one who uses humility to walk on the earth, when things of the world were looking good for the one who practices that which is bad, when the one who practices that which is good was getting reduced in importance. It was said that he ought to come doing *ebò*. He ought moreover to have patience.

Ẹlédàá l'ó n'ílẹ̀. Ẹlédàá l'ó n'ídájó. Ẹsan ni t'Ẹlédàá. Yóò san án fún oníkálùkù gégẹbí isẹ ọwọ wọn.

It is *Ẹlédàá* (Creator God) who owns the earth. It is *Ẹlédàá* who owns judgment. It is payment of reward that is a matter of *Ẹlédàá*. He will pay it to each one according to the works of their hands.

Extra: **1.** [The Bible, Psalm 18:24] And *Ha'el* (God) gives rewards to me according to my rightness, according to the cleanness of my hands in front of his eyes. **2.** [The Bible, Proverbs 11:18] An unrighteous one achieves a sham reward, but one who sows righteousness (achieves) a reward truly.

Ogbè Ọsẹ

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.15a *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ọsẹ* (overcoming through joyful optimism).

Message: [The Bible, Proverbs 17:22] A merry heart (that is, prevailing mental and emotional attitude) does (one) good (like) a medicinal cure, but an afflicted spirit causes strength to dry up.

01.15b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Ọsẹ* (overcoming through joyful optimism).

Ogbè Ọsẹ, a difá fún Òmùgò, tí ó l'óun kò ní ọore mọ. A ní kí ó má dẹkun ịsoore. Ẹgbón kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ogbè Ọsẹ, *Ifá* divination was performed for Foolish-one, who said that he would not do kindly acts anymore. It was said that he ought not to cease doing kindly acts. But he ought to come doing *ebò*. He heard; he did *ebò*.

Ẹjẹ, yóò l'ájé tí ó tẹrùn. Aṣe-rere, kò Ẹàì l'ájé tí ó tẹrùn. Yóò l'áya tí ó tẹrùn. Aṣe-rere, kò Ẹàì l'áya tí ó tẹrùn.

Therefore, he will have money that is satisfactory. One who practices that which is good, he will not fail to have money that is satisfactory. He will have spouses who are satisfactory. One who practices that which is good, he will not fail to have spouses who are satisfactory.

Yóò bímọ tí ó tẹrùn. Aṣe-rere, kò Ẹàì bímọ tí ó tẹrùn. Yóò n'íre gbogbo tí ó tẹrùn. Aṣe-rere, kò Ẹàì n'íre gbogbo tí ó tẹrùn.

He will beget children who are satisfactory. One who practices that which is good, he will not fail to beget children who are satisfactory. He will have every good thing that is satisfactory. One who practices that which is good, he will not fail to have every good thing that is satisfactory.

Extra: **1.** Do not give up on doing what is good. **2.** By practicing what is good, you will enjoy things within proper bounds.

Ogbè Òfún

[\[Back to Ogbè\]](#)

01.16a *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Òfún* (acting with rectitude). *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) hinders *Òfún* (efforts of limited success).

Mo sí apá, mo yanngede.

I raise (my) arms, I walk majestically.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà, tí maa gbé ẹrù tirẹ dé orí. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Èlà, asọ-òrò-di-ayọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) when he was intending to head-carry his load (that is, to bear his responsibilities). It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. He heard; he did ẹbọ. He moreover did ibọ for Èlà, the one who converts trouble into joy.

Èlà bá mi gbé ẹrù tèmi dé orí. Ohun tí ó wúwo jù kì ídé sí Èlà. Njẹ, mo sí apá, mo yanngede.

Èlà is joining me in head-carrying my load. A thing that is too heavy never reaches Èlà. Therefore, I raise (my) arms, I walk majestically.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will be able to handle any matter in a masterly way.

01.16b *Ogbè* (a wholesome road) is helped by *Òfún* (acting with rectitude).

Ogbè Òfún, a dífá fún Ọrùn nígbà tí ó maa gbà Ikọ sílé. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. A ní kí ó má gbà àlejò ọràn.

Ogbè Òfún, *Ifá* divination was performed for Neck when he was intending to accept Cough as a guest in his home. It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. It was said that he ought not to accept a troublesome guest.

Ọrùn pè awo l'éké. Ó pè Èṣù l'ólè. Ó kọ; kò rúbọ. Nítorínàà, Ikọ l'ó sọ ilé Ìwémẹ̀ di ilé ipónjù.

Neck called the priest a deceiver. He called Èṣù (the òrìṣà of opportunity and crossroads tests) a thief. He refused; he did not do ẹbọ. Therefore, it was Cough who transformed the home of Neck into a home of misery.

Extra: Do not allow troublesome persons or things into your psychological comfort zone.

A02 Òyèkú as the right leg

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[Òyèkú Ogbè](#)

[Òyèkú Ìrosùn](#)

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Òyèkú Ogbè

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02.01 *Òyèkú* (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities) is helped by *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Ayé l'ọjà, ọrun n'ilé.

It is earth that is a market place, it is the spirit world that is home. [Note: A market place offers a variety of experiences to each person].

A dífá fún Orí-àpéré. Bí ẹ dé ilé ayé, bí ẹ gbàgbé ọrun, ayé l'ọjà, ọrun n'ilé.

Ifá divination was performed for Personal-destiny. If you reach the abode of earth, if you forget the spirit world, then it is earth that is a market place, it is the spirit world that is home.

Ẹ ọò jẹ ìyìn, ẹ ọò jẹ àbò ohun tí ẹ rí.

You will answer for the praise (that you have earned), and you will answer for the other half of that which you experienced.

Òyèkú Méjì

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02.02a *Òyèkú* (averting ruin) is doubled.

Ìwọ ọyẹ. Èmi ọyẹ.

You are one who habitually displaces things. I am one who habitually displaces things.

A dífá fún Bàbá 'Ọyẹ ikú', n'íjọ tí ó fẹ maa yẹ ikú lórí takọ-tabo. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Father 'Ọyẹ ikú' (one who habitually displaces death), on the day when he wanted to displace death from the heads of men and women. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ọfọ: Kíni yóò yẹ ikú nù lórí awo? Èjì Ọyẹ, Ifá ni yóò yẹ ikú nù lórí awo, Èjì Ọyẹ o!

Incantation: What is it that will displace death to be lost at the head of the priest? *Èjì Ọyẹ* (same as *Òyèkú Méjì*), it is *Ifá* that will displace death to be lost at the head of the priest, *Èjì Ọyẹ!*

Àkòsè Ifá: Pè ọfọ nàà s'ìyèròsùn tí o ti tẹ lí Èjì Ọyẹ. Fí ìyèròsùn nàà sà fún orí.

Ifá medicine: Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to *ìyèròsùn* that you have imprinted with *Èjì Ọyẹ*. Use the aforementioned *ìyèròsùn* to apply to the head.

02.02b *Ọyèkú* (not missing out on bright possibilities) is doubled.

Ọpẹlẹ l'ó yó tán, l'ó dakùn délẹ.

It is the *ọpẹlẹ* that is satisfied completely with food and riches, that lies flat on its belly. [Note: The *ọpẹlẹ* lies flat on its belly whenever it shows *Ọyèkú Méjì*].

A dífá fún Ọyẹ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó baà lè gbà ojú-ọrun là bí ọbẹrẹkẹ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Predawn-light. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to take over the sky and come into full display like a bright light. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ọyẹ sẹsẹ nílà bọ lókè. Wọn sẹbí ojúmọ ní ímọ. Ojúmọ ire tí yóò maa mó l'òní o!

Predawn-light is just appearing and approaching on high. They (people) assume that it is dawn that is (already) breaking. It is a dawn of good things that will be breaking today!

Ojúmọ ajé tí ó mó mi l'òní o! Ojúmọ aya tí ó mó mi l'òní o! Ojúmọ ọmọ tí ó mó mi l'òní o! Ojúmọ ire tí ó mó mi l'òní o!

It is a dawn of money on me that today is! It is a dawn of spouses on me that today is! It is a dawn of children on me that today is! It is a dawn of good things on me that today is!

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one's light will shine (that is, one will give full display to the fruits of one's abilities).

Ọyèkú Ọdí

[\[Back to Ọyèkú\]](#)

02.04 *Ọyèkú* (not missing out on bright possibilities) is helped by *Ọdí* (having a sound foundation).

Lèselẹsẹ l'a nífẹ. Ọrìṣà, má jékí a dǎwólé ohun tí a kò lè sẹ.

It is achievement that we are wanting. *Ọrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents), do not allow that we embark on a thing that we are not able to do.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó ọjóú Ọgún kí ó tó sẹ nkan. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá sẹ ibọ fún Ọgún. Báyi ní yóò ká ọràn l'áyé.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to grab the attention of *Ọgún* (the *òrìṣà* of iron and war) before he reaches the point of doing something. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Ọgún*. It is in this manner that he will successfully handle matters in life.

Ọyèkú Ìrosùn

[\[Back to Ọyèkú\]](#)

02.05 *Ọyèkú* (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities) helps *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Òyèkú Ìrosùn, a dífá fún Ìyè, ọmọ Olúigbó, tí ífi omi ojú sògbéré ire. A ní: “Ikin ni yóò gbé ẹ là.”

*Òyèkú Ìrosùn, Ifá divination was performed for Wood-dust (a reference to *ìyèròsùn*, a fine wooden powder that is used in *Ifá* divination), child of *Olúigbó* (the spirit of the forest), who was using teardrops to cry about good things. It was said: “It is *ikin* (sacred palm kernels that are used to perform *Ifá* divination) that will lift you up to become prosperous.”*

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was said that she ought to come doing ẹbọ. She heard; she did ẹbọ.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó dì Ẹlà mú. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ẹ ibọ fún Ẹlà. Kí olúwarẹ lọ tẹfá. Báyii n’ire nlá ọò dé sí i.

*Ifá says that there is someone who ought to take hold of Ẹlà (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). The person in question ought to come doing ẹbọ. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for Ẹlà. The person in question ought to go get initiated into *Ifá*. It is in this manner that great blessings will reach him.*

Òyèkú Ọbàrà

[\[Back to Òyèkú\]](#)

02.07 Òyèkú (averting ruin) is helped by Ọbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity).

Èkúnté ilé kò nínú mu oje ọgìrì kí ó yè.

A house rat will not drink the sap of fermented melon seeds and then survive.

A dífá fún L’ásílọ, tí ó dá egbò s’ẹsẹ ọ̀sì, sùgbón ó lọ ńmọ t’òtún. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó kọ; kò rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘At shifting things around’, who presented a sore on the left leg, but went limiting himself to the right leg. It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. He refused; he did not do ẹbọ.

Èyàrán tí ó dá egbò s’ẹsẹ ọ̀sì, sùgbón ó lọ ńmọ t’òtún, ara rẹ l’ó ńtàn án jẹ.

The person who presents a sore on the left leg, but goes limiting himself to the right leg, it is his own self whom he is deceiving.

Extra: Be honest with yourself about your shortcomings.

Òyèkú Ọkànràn

[\[Back to Òyèkú\]](#)

02.08a Òyèkú (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities) is helped by Ọkànràn (giving something good its turn).

Aboógún, wọn kò fọhùn ibi. Abòòṣà, wọn kò fọhùn odi.

*Those who practice the customs of *egúngún* (honorable ancestors), they do not verbally dwell on bad things. Those who practice the customs of *òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents), they do not verbally dwell on ill will.*

Extra: [a saying from Shirley MacLaine] Dwelling on the negative simply contributes to its power.

02.08b *Òyèkú* (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities) is hindered by *Òkànràn* (touching trouble).

Àtòrì rọra yò. Ilé l'a bá irókò nǵbé.

The *àtòrì* tree (which is associated with *egúngún*, honorable ancestors) gently rejoices. It is home that we make with the *irókò* tree (which is sacred and inhabited by a powerful spirit).

A dífá fún Ìràwò-ṣààṣà. A ní bí kò bá fi t'Èlédàá ẹ ọ̀nà, àá pa ọ̀lá mọ ọ l'ára. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó kọ; kò rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Giant-star. It was said that if he did not happen to use the way of *Èlédàá* (Creator God) to make a way, then honor would be kept safe from him. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He refused; he did not do *ẹbọ*.

Nítorínàà, n'íjọ tí Èlédàá bá rò t'ìgbéraga ìràwò kan, l'áà rí tí ìràwò nàà sì dí lójìjì. Yóò sì wọ òòkùn.

Therefore, it is on the day when *Èlédàá* happens to think on the matter of a star's arrogance, that we will see that the aforementioned star becomes pale and opaque suddenly. It will moreover go into darkness.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 29:23] Arrogance of a person will bring him low, but a humble one of spirit will take hold of honor.

Òyèkú Ọsá

[\[Back to Òyèkú\]](#)

02.10 *Òyèkú* (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities) is helped by *Ọsá* (taking timely action).

Òyèkú nìlọ rẹ wò Ọsá.

Òyèkú went aiming to give attention to *Ọsá*.

A dífá fún Ojú, tí ilọ wá ibi rere láti jókòó. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Èlẹ̀, alátúnṣe ayé, asọ-òrọ̀-dí-ayọ. Báyyì nì yóò bó lówọ ariwo.

Ifá divination was performed for Eye, who went looking for a good place to sit down (that is, to relax comfortably). It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*. She moreover did *ibọ* for *Èlẹ̀* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the master of improving one's life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy. It was in this manner that she would get free from the hands of noisy disorder.

Òyèkú Ọṣẹ

[\[Back to Òyèkú\]](#)

02.15 *Òyèkú* (averting ruin) helps *Ọṣẹ* (overcoming trouble).

‘Kí a má tètè kú’ l’awo ilé aláyọ. ‘Àitètè-kú iṣẹ’ l’awo wọ̀n n’ilé ibanújẹ. ‘Bí ikú bá dé, kí a yìn Èlédàá l’ógo’ l’awo ilé olóótọ.

It was ‘Let us not quickly die’ who was the priest of the house of the possessors of joy (that is, those whose primary interest is enjoyment). It was ‘Not quickly dying of deficient

circumstances’ who was the priest of those in the house of disheartening sadness. It was ‘If death happens to arrive, then let us praise *Ẹlédàá* (Creator God) with great praise’ who was the priest of the house of truth-doers.

A dífá fún àwọn amòye tí ó wá níwí: “Ètírí tí kò sí ẹni tí kì íkú?”

Ifá divination was performed for the wise people who came saying: “Why is there no one who never dies?”

Ifá ní: “Oore l’Ẹlédàá nífi ikú ẹ. Omi tí kò sán síwájú, tí kò sán sẹhìn, yòò di ọgòdò omi ibàjẹ, ọgòdò omi àrùn. Olókùnrùn, kí ó rẹ ilé lẹ gbà awọ titun. A-ẹ-ibàjẹ, kí ó rẹ ilé lẹ gbà iwà titun. Kíni kò dùn?”

Ifá said: “It is a kindly act that *Ẹlédàá* is causing death to be. Water that does not flow forward or that does not flow backward, it will become a swamp of water bearing pollution, a swamp of water bearing illness. The chronically ill person, he ought to go home in order to go receive a new skin. One who makes corruption, he ought to go home in order to go receive a new character. What is it that is not pleasant?”

Àwọn amòye foríbalẹ fún Ifá níwí: “Àbọrú, àbọyè, àbọsíşẹ.” Wọn túká lẹ. Wọn kò gbà ikú sí ọràn ẹdùn mọ.

The elders made obeisance to *Ifá* saying: “May *ẹbọ* be offered, may *ẹbọ* be approved, may *ẹbọ* be fulfilled.” They dispersed and went away. They did not take death as a matter of sadness anymore. [Note: It is helpful here to view death as an ending that facilitates transformation].

Extra: [The Bible, Romans 12:2] And do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind for the purpose of you discerning what is the will of God – that which is good, fully acceptable, and complete.

A03 Ìwòrì as the right leg

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[Ìwòrì Ogbè](#)

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Ìwòrì Ogbè

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03.01 Ìwòrì (good things becoming seen) helps Ogbè (a wholesome road).

Ọ̀nà wúrúwùrù yìí, ẹ̀ jẹ́kí a jọ yẹ ẹ̀ wò.

This undeveloped path, allow that we come together to look into it.

A dífá fún Ìwòrì, èyítí ilọ bá Ogbè rè ilé ire. A ní ọ̀nà kan m̀bẹ̀ tí àwọn méjèèjì ọ̀ò jọ là á. Sùgbón kí wọn wá rúbọ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Ìwòrì, the one who went joining Ogbè in going to the house of good things. It was said that there was a road that the two of them would come together to make it. But they ought to come doing ẹ̀bọ. They heard; they did ẹ̀bọ.

Ìwòrì Bogbè rere o! Ìwòrì wá bì Ogbè s'ílẹ̀ ajé. Ìwòrì Bogbè rere o! Ìwòrì wá bì Ogbè s'ílẹ̀ aya.

Good Ìwòrì Bogbè (same as Ìwòrì Ogbè)! Ìwòrì comes pushing Ogbè along to the house of money. Good Ìwòrì Bogbè! Ìwòrì comes pushing Ogbè along to the house of spouses.

Ìwòrì Bogbè rere o! Ìwòrì wá bì Ogbè s'ílẹ̀ ọ̀mọ. Ìwòrì Bogbè rere o! Ìwòrì wá bì Ogbè s'ílẹ̀ ire gbogbo. Ìwòrì Bogbè rere o!

Good Ìwòrì Bogbè! Ìwòrì comes pushing Ogbè along to the house of children. Good Ìwòrì Bogbè! Ìwòrì comes pushing Ogbè along to the house of every good thing. Good Ìwòrì Bogbè!

Ìwòrì Ọ̀yèkú

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03.02 Ìwòrì (good things becoming seen) helps Ọ̀yèkú (not missing out on bright possibilities).

Ohun tí yóò ẹ̀ ẹnì, kò gbai ẹ̀ ẹnì.

That which will damage a person, it will not damage him very much.

A dífá fún Ọ̀lọ́fin. A ní ọ̀mọ titun tí ó bí yìí, bí ó bá pẹ̀, yóò ẹ̀ aláìsàn kan. Wọn ọ̀ò wò ó sà̀n, sùgbón yóò sọ̀dì ayẹ̀kún.

Ifá divination was performed for the Ifẹ̀ king. It was said that this new child whom he begot, if he happened to last long, then he would be a sick person. They would heal him, but he would become a lame person.

A ní kí Ọlòfin má bínú. Bí ó bá rúbọ, ọmọ náà òò rí ire dandan.

It was said that the *Ifẹ* king ought not to be angry. If he happened to do *ẹbọ*, then the aforementioned child would see good things surely.

Extra: One can still make progress in spite of the limitations presented to them.

Ìwòrì Méjì

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03.03 *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly) is doubled.

Ọwọ èwe kò tó pẹpẹ. T'àgbàlágba kò wọ akèrègbè. Iṣẹ tí èwe bá bè àgbà, kí ó máṣe kọ. Gbogbo wa l'a n'íṣẹ tí a jọ m̀bẹ ara wa.

The hands of a youngster do not reach a shelf. Those of an elder do not enter a small-necked calabash. The task that a youngster happens to beg of an elder, he (the elder) ought not to refuse it. It is all of us who have tasks that we come together making requests of one another. [Note: The message here is that one person alone is sometimes not enough to meet a situation].

A dífá fún babaláwo, èyítí akápò rẹ òò pè é l'ẹ́jọ lódò adájọ gbọ́n. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for an *Ifá* master priest, the one whom his disciple would call him to court in the presence of a wise judge. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Adájọ wá ránṣẹ sí babaláwo pé kí ó wá sọ ìdì tí kò figbè akápò rẹ. Nígbà tí babaláwo dé iwájú adájọ, ó ní òun sà gbogbo agbára òun fún akápò. Ó ní ipín akápò ní kò gbọ.

The judge came sending a message to the priest that he (the priest) ought to come telling the reason why he did not show support for his disciple. When the priest arrived in front of the judge, he (the priest) said that he applied all of his ability for the disciple. He said that it was the fate of the disciple to not understand.

Ìgbà náà ní ọrọ náà tó wá yé adájọ yékeyéke. Inú rẹ sì dùn pé kò dájọ ẹnu apákan.

It was at that time that the aforementioned matter reached the point of coming to be clear to the judge thoroughly. His insides moreover were happy that he did not judge from the narration of one side only.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó má dájọ ẹnu apákan. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ẹ ibọ fún Èlà, aṣí inú ẹ gbọ́n.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought not to judge from the narration of one side only. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the one who uses (his) insides to practice wisdom.

Extra: Decide matters equitably.

Ìwòrì Ìrosùn

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03.05 *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly) is helped by *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Bí ojúmọ bá ñmọ, a kò ní yà ọgbẹ̀rì bí ọjó ànà. A dífá fún Kò-ìmọ, tí íronú sí bí òun tí maa ẹ̀ kìní yìí l'áná. Ó ronú tíí ó sùn. Nígbà tí ojúmọ mọ, tí ọyẹ̀ là, kò ì mọ̀ èyítí òun maa ẹ̀ dandan.

If dawn happens to break, then we will not be unknowing people like yesterday. *Ifá* divination was performed for 'He does not yet know', who was contemplating this way that he was doing things yesterday. He pondered until he fell asleep. When dawn broke, when twilight appeared, he still did not know what he was going to do exactly.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí èrò rẹ̀ baà lẹ̀ ẹ̀ orí. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that his ideas may be able to make headway. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ñjẹ, kí a jẹ́kí ọjó bọ́rí ọjó. Bí kò bá tó, kí oṣù bọ́rí oṣù. Bí ó bá pẹ̀ tíí, àà mọ̀ èyítí a maa ẹ̀.

Therefore, let us allow day by day to get through what has to be done. If it does not happen to be enough, then let us endeavor month after month. If it happens to take a long time on-and-on, then we will know what we are going to do.

Extra: Through careful consideration and suitable spiritual effort, one will eventually determine a proper course of action.

Ìwòrì Ọ̀bàrà

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03.07 *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen; seeing things clearly) is helped by *Ọ̀bàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity).

Ifá ní ẹnìkàn wà tí kí ó ńwọ́ nínú ìwà tí kò sunwọ́n. Kí olúwarẹ̀ wá rúbọ́. Bá yíí l'òràn bàràbàrà kò ní bá a.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to stop working in behavior that is not good. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. It is in this manner that hasty trouble will not encounter him.

Ìwòrì Ọ̀kànràn

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03.08 *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly) hinders *Ọ̀kànràn* (touching trouble).

Ó bè ilẹ̀ wò, ó bè ilẹ̀ wò. Bí ewúré bá maa dùbúlẹ̀, yòò bè ilẹ̀ wò.

She inspects the ground, she inspects the ground. If a she-goat happens to be lying down, then she will inspect the ground.

A dífá fún 'Má kánjú hùwà, ìrìn gbé èrè ọ́lá'. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ohun tí maa ẹ̀ yíí, ó má baà dá ọ̀ràn s'ọ̀rùn fún un. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́. Bá yíí l'èrò rẹ̀ ọ̀ò ẹ̀ orí.

Ifá divination was performed for 'Do not be in a hurry to take action, walking carries the gain of honor'. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that this thing that he was intending to do, it may not create a 'pain in the neck' for him. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. It was in this manner that his ideas would make headway.

Extra: Put forth effort judiciously.

Ìwòrì Ògúndá

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03.09 *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen) is helped by *Ògúndá* (clearing a way).

Olórí-búburú mu omi; ó pa á l'òfun. Òkúùgbé jẹ ògèdè; ó há l'òrùn.

The possessor of bad luck drinks water; it overwhelms him in the throat. The despicable person eats a banana; it gets entangled in the neck.

A dífá fún Olórí-búburú. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí orí-búburú baà lè di orí-ire. Ó kò; kò rúbọ́. Ó ní kò ní ifẹ́ s'ẹbọ́ rírú.

Ifá divination was performed for 'Possessor of bad luck'. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that bad luck may be able to become good luck. He refused; he did not do *ẹbọ*. He said that he did not have an interest in doing *ẹbọ*.

Ñjẹ, kí Olórí-búburú má kò mi.

Therefore, may 'Possessor of bad luck' not come face-to-face with me.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ́. Kí olúwarẹ sì wá ẹ ibọ́ fún Èṣù. Báyií ni yóò lè yẹra Olórí-búburú.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. The person in question ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Èṣù* (the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests). It is in this manner that he will be able to avoid 'Possessor of bad luck'.

Extra: Distance yourself from someone or something that is entrenched in bad luck.

Ìwòrì Ọsá

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03.10 *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen; seeing things clearly) is hindered by *Ọsá* (running away from a challenge).

Atíkárarẹ-ẹ-tẹ, awo ọrun, l'ó dífá fún àwọn ọmọ aráyé nígbà tí wọn nsàré sí Ẹlẹdàá nítorí ohun gbogbo.

It was 'One who makes himself bend (over backward)', the priest of heaven, who performed *Ifá* divination for the people of the world when they were running to *Ẹlẹdàá* (Creator God) because of every (single) thing.

Olúkúlùkù nké: "Bàbá, Bàbá, mo dé. Gbà mi, jẹwọ gbà mi." Ẹlẹdàá ní: "Ètírí? Ẹni tí mo fún l'ágbára, kò lò agbára. Ẹni tí mo fún l'ọgbọn, kò lò ọgbọn."

Each one was crying out: "Father, Father, I have arrived. Rescue me, please rescue me." *Ẹlẹdàá* said: "Why? The person whom I gave ability, he does not use the ability. The person whom I gave wisdom, he does not use the wisdom."

Ẹlẹdàá fí asà òkùnkùn s'ójú ayé. Ọmọ tí kò rí bàbá rẹ, yóò sà ipá inú tirẹ.

Ẹlẹdàá put a shield of darkness over the face of the world. The child who does not see his father, he will apply his own inner force.

Extra: [an old saying] God helps those who help themselves.

Ìwòrì Ìká

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03.11 *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen; seeing things clearly) is hindered by *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck).

Orí ni íṣe ẹni. Ìdí kì íṣe èyàn.

It is the head that is doing us in. The buttock never works against a human being.

A dífá fún Ìwòrì, tí yóò rẹ̀rù ká ayé. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ṣe ìbọ fún Èlà àtí Orí Èlédàá. Báyii ni kò ní ronú s'óhun tí yóò dá ọ̀ràn s'ọ̀rùn fún un.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ìwòrì*, who would bear a burden all around the world. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ìbọ* for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) and *Orí Èlédàá* (Man's godself). It was in this manner that he would not give thought to that which would create a 'pain in the neck' for him.

Kò pé; kò jìnnà. Ẹ wá bá ẹni ní jẹbútú ire.

It will not take long; it is not far away. Come join us in plenty of good things.

Extra: Described here is someone whose way of thinking is making trouble for oneself.

Ìwòrì Òtúrúpòn

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03.12 *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly) helps *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive).

Ìwòrì tutù nini gégébí ẹni tí ídà.

Ìwòrì is very cool just like the person who is casting (*Ifá*).

A dífá fún Olú, èyítí yóò rí àrùn orí.

Ifá divination was performed for Chief, the one who would see an illness of the head.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó kọ; kò rúbọ.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He refused; he did not do *ẹbọ*.

Olú ibá mọ, ibá wá fọwọkàn ẹbọ.

If Chief had known, then he would have come laying hands on *ẹbọ*.

Extra: **1.** Without suitable spiritual effort, one's *orí-inú* (prevailing mental and emotional attitude) will incline toward unwholesomeness. **2.** Without suitable spiritual effort, one will incline toward mental illness.

Ìwòrì Òtúrá

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03.13 *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen; seeing things clearly) helps *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

Ìwòrì Wòtu pẹ̀rẹ̀pẹ̀, a dífá fún ẹni jánhínjánhín, èyítí yóò sì wá di ẹni rẹ̀gìrẹ̀gì. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì tẹfá.

Ìwòrì Wòtu (same as *Ìwòrì Òtúrá*) abundantly, *Ifá* divination was performed for a person of little importance, the one who would moreover come turning into a very important person. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover got initiated into *Ifá*.

Kò pé; kò jìnnà. Ẹ wá bá ẹni ní jẹbútú ire.

It will not take long; it is not far away. Come join us in plenty of good things.

Ẹni jánhínjánhín ni mo wà. Ọpẹ Ifá l'ó sọ mi di Ọgbóni o!

It was a person of little importance that I used to be. It was the palm tree of *Ifá* that transformed me into an *Ọgbóni* (that is, someone who carries a high level of power and prestige)!

Extra: It is *Ifá* that will make you worthy of power and prestige.

Ìwòrì Ìrètẹ

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03.14 *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly) is helped by *Ìrètẹ* (practicing *Ifá*). *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly) hinders *Ìrètẹ* (unwholesome influences).

Ìwòrì, tejúmọ ohun tí یشه ẹni. Bí o bá tẹfá tán, kí o tún iyè rẹ tẹ.

Ìwòrì, take an earnest look at that which works against a person. If you happen to become initiated into *Ifá* completely, then you ought to work at imprinting your mind (with wisdom).

Ìwòrì, tejúmọ ohun tí یشه ẹni. Awo, má fi ẹjá igbà gun ọpẹ. Awo, má fi àìmòwẹ wò omi.

Ìwòrì, take an earnest look at that which works against a person. Priest, do not use a tattered tree-climbing rope to climb a palm tree. Priest, do not use not-knowing-how-to-swim to enter the water.

Ìwòrì, tejúmọ ohun tí یشه ẹni. Awo, má fi ibínú yọ ọbẹ. Awo, má fi kánjúkánjú jẹ ayé, má fi wàràwàrà jẹ ọrọ.

Ìwòrì, take an earnest look at that which works against a person. Priest, do not use anger to pull out a knife. Priest, do not use haste to enjoy life, do not use haste to enjoy wealth.

Ìwòrì, tejúmọ ohun tí یشه ẹni. Awo, má ẹkẹ, má ẹdàlẹ. Awo, má ẹ igbéraga sí àgbà.

Ìwòrì, take an earnest look at that which works against a person. Priest, do not deceive, do not be treacherous. Priest, do not practice arrogance toward an elder.

Ìwòrì, tejúmọ ohun tí یشه ẹni. Awo, má sọ irètí nù. Awo, má sán bàntẹ alábàntẹ.

Ìwòrì, take an earnest look at that which works against a person. Priest, do not throw hope away. Priest, do not tie on the apron of someone else (that is, do not sleep with someone else's wife).

Ìwòrì, tejúmọ ohun tí یشه ẹni. Bí o bá tẹfá tán, kí o tún iyè rẹ tẹ.

Ìwòrì, take an earnest look at that which works against a person. If you happen to become initiated into *Ifá* completely, then you ought to work at imprinting your mind (with wisdom).

Àkóse Ifá: Lò ewé ẹsọ láti sè jẹ gégẹbí ọbẹ pẹlú ẹja àrọ.

Ifá medicine: Use *ẹsọ* leaves (*Elytraria marginata*: used to further careful attention) to cook and eat according to a soup together with a mudfish (which is used to bring about tranquility).

Ìwòrì Ọṣẹ

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03.15a *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen) is helped by *Ọṣẹ* (overcoming through joyful optimism).

Ìpónjù kì ídé kí ó má mú ire rẹ̀ bọ̀ ẹ̀ni. Tibi-tire, ẹ̀jì wá pọ̀.

Distress never arrives and then not bring its good things to us. Bad things and good things, both come together.

A dífá fún ‘Èyàn kò sunwọ̀n’. A ní ojú tí ó rí ìpónjù, kí ó má barajẹ, kí ó tọ́jú orúkọ rere rẹ̀. Adùn nígbẹ̀yìn ewúro.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘Person is not doing well’. It was said that the one who experiences distress, he ought not to break down and cry, he ought to take care of his good name. Sweetness is at the end of *ewúro* leaves (whose bitter taste is removed by cooking them).

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀ kí ìpónjù baà lè di ìrọ̀rùn fún un.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀* so that distress may be able to turn into convenience for him.

Àkọ̀sẹ̀ Ifá: Gún ewé ewúro, ewé ojúsàájú, àti ọṣẹ̀ pọ̀ fún wíwẹ̀.

Ifá medicine: Pound *ewúro* leaves (*Vernonia amygdalina*: used to remove bitterness), *ojúsàájú* leaves (*Petiveria alliacea*: used to help someone to think favorably of another), and soap to be together for cleansing yourself.

Extra: Something good can come out of a bad situation.

03.15b *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen) is helped by *Ọṣẹ* (overcoming trouble).

Bí a kọ̀ wọ̀n l’ọ̀rọ̀, wọ̀n kì ígbọ̀. T’ínú wọ̀n nì wọ̀n nṣẹ̀.

If we teach them about matters, then they never listen. It is what is in their minds that they are doing.

A dífá fún Aní-ìwọ̀n-ìkà, tí ílépa Ọ̀mọ-Èlà kiri. Ó ní Ọ̀mọ-Èlà nídí òun l’ọ̀wọ̀. Ó ní kí Ọ̀mọ-Èlà jẹ́kí òun ọ̀ṣẹ̀ ibi ọ̀wọ̀ òun. Ó bèrẹ̀sí kó ọ̀ṣẹ̀ búburú t’Ọ̀mọ-Èlà. Ọ̀mọ-Èlà wá ńlá àlákálá.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘One who has some evil’, who was pursuing *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) from place to place. He said that *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà* was hindering him. He said that *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà* ought to allow that he work the evil of his hands. He began to take up nasty works with regard to *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà*. *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà* came dreaming bad dreams.

A ní kí Ọ̀mọ-Èlà wá rúbọ̀. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀. Ọ̀wọ̀ kò ká Ọ̀mọ-Èlà. Ibi padà; ó lọ̀ bá oníbì. Aní-ìwọ̀n-ìkà lólù ẹ̀wọ̀n ara rẹ̀ nígbà tí ífi orí-kunkun lépa Ọ̀mọ-Èlà, nígbà tí kò gbà ìmọ̀ràn idẹ̀kun ìwà ìkà tí ífi ojojúmọ̀ hù.

It was said that *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà* ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ̀*. Hands did not dominate *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà*. Evil turned back; it went to meet the evildoer. ‘One who has some evil’ got entangled in his own prickly bush when he was using stubbornness to pursue *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà*, when he did not accept the advice of ceasing the unrighteous conduct that he was using each day to develop.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 21:7] Damaging action of unrighteous ones will drag them away to ruin because they refuse to deal justly.

Ìwòrì Òfún

[\[Back to Ìwòrì\]](#)

03.16a *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen) is helped by *Òfún* (acting with rectitude).

Awo rere l'ó dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà, tí ísawo rè ọsà, tí ísawo rè òkun.

It was a good priest who performed *Ifá* divination for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom), who was going on a spiritual mission to the lagoon, who was going on a spiritual mission to the ocean.

A ní Ọmọ-Èlà ọò maa gbà iyì, ọò maa gbà èyẹ àti ọlá. Ọmọ-Èlà sì ọò rí ire ajé láti gbé e wá ilé. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was said that Ọmọ-Èlà would keep receiving respect, that he would keep receiving dignity and honor. Ọmọ-Èlà moreover would see monetary well-being in order to bring it home. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 21:21] One who runs after righteousness and loving-kindness attains to life, prosperity, and honor.

03.16b *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly) hinders *Òfún* (efforts of limited success).

Enini bélébélé ni iwẹ orí ẹmọ. Tòtò balàbàlà ni iwẹ idí àdán.

It is misty dew that is washing the head of the brown rat. It is misty urine that is washing the lower parts of the bat.

A dífá fún Ìwòrì nígbàtí ilọ rè wẹ orí Òfún. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Lẹhin tí Ìwòrì rúbọ tán, Òfún bèrèsí l'ájé, Òfún bèrèsí l'áya, Òfún bèrèsí n'íre gbogbo.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ìwòrì* when he went aiming to cleanse the head of *Òfún*. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. After *Ìwòrì* had done *ẹbọ* completely, *Òfún* began to have money, *Òfún* began to have spouses, *Òfún* began to have every good thing.

Tani yóò wá wẹ orí mi fún mi? Ìwòrì Òfún ni yóò wá wẹ orí mi fún mi láti dá ayọ àti ìretí.

Who will come cleansing my head for me? It is *Ìwòrì Òfún* who will come cleansing my head for me in order to bring forth joy and hope.

Ọfọ: Awẹde wẹ ilẹkẹ, wẹ orí mi. Wẹ orí mi kí N n'íre. Awẹde wẹ ilẹkẹ, wẹ orí mi.

Incantation: *Awẹde* (that) cleanses òrìṣà beads, cleanse my head. Cleanse my head so that I may have good things. *Awẹde* (that) cleanses òrìṣà beads, cleanse my head.

Àkóse Ifá: Lọ ewé awẹde pẹlú orí àwọn ẹmọ àti ẹmú àwọn àdán. Pẹ ọfọ náà s'ẹtù yìí tí o ti tẹ lí Ìwòrì Òfún. Pò ẹtù pẹlú ọṣẹ. Bọ sínú odò láti fí ọṣẹ yìí fún wíwẹ orí.

Ifá medicine: Grind *awẹde* leaves (*Oxalis corniculata*: used to wash away cloudiness caused by negative thoughts and feelings) together with the heads of brown rats (which are used to help someone to be resourceful) and the pincers of bats (whose pincers exert a firm grasp on things). Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to this powder that you have imprinted

with *Ìwòrì Òfún*. Mix the powder together with soap. Come into a stream in order to use this soap for cleansing the head.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 51:10] Create in me *’Elōhīm* (Creator God and his ministerial agents) a clean heart (that is, prevailing mental and emotional attitude) and reestablish a stable spirit within me.

A04 Òdí as the right leg

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Òdí Ogbè	Òdí Ìrosùn	Òdí Ògúndá	Òdí Òtúrá
Òdí Òyèkú	Òdí Òwónrín	Òdí Òsá	Òdí Ìrètè
Òdí Ìwòrì	Òdí Òbàrà	Òdí Ìká	Òdí Òṣẹ́
Òdí Méjì	Òdí Òkànràn	Òdí Òtúrùpòn	Òdí Òfún

Òdí Òyèkú

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.02 *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) helps *Òyèkú* (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities).

Şákáşáká l'omòdé kékeré kófá kí ó baà lè rí ilẹ̀ Ifá tán.

It is earnestly that a small youngster studies *Ifá* so that he may be able to see the expanse of *Ifá* completely.

Ìyà owó tí omọ-awo ti jẹ, Ifá npadà bọ sẹsan rẹ. Àşalù-àşalù ni t'ẹsan Ifá. Ìyà aya tí omọ-awo ti jẹ, Ifá npadà bọ sẹsan rẹ. Àşalù-àşalù ni t'ẹsan Ifá.

The distress (from the lack) of good things that the student priest has tasted, *Ifá* is coming back to reward him. It is numerous and varied that is the reward of *Ifá*. The distress (from the lack) of spouses that the student priest has tasted, *Ifá* is coming back to reward him. It is numerous and varied that is the reward of *Ifá*.

Ìyà omọ tí omọ-awo ti jẹ, Ifá npadà bọ sẹsan rẹ. Àşalù-àşalù ni t'ẹsan Ifá. Ìyà ire gbogbo tí omọ-awo ti jẹ, Ifá npadà bọ sẹsan rẹ. Àşalù-àşalù ni t'ẹsan Ifá.

The distress (from the lack) of children that the student priest has tasted, *Ifá* is coming back to reward him. It is numerous and varied that is the reward of *Ifá*. The distress (from the lack) of every good thing that the student priest has tasted, *Ifá* is coming back to reward him. It is numerous and varied that is the reward of *Ifá*.

Extra: By sticking with *Ifá* through thick and thin, the distress of today will become the ease of tomorrow.

Òdí Ìwòrì

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.03 *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) helps *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen; seeing things clearly).

Bí a l'ògbón nínú, bí a kò lò ó, àà di ògbèrì. Bí a lágbára nínú, bí a kò lò ó, àà di òlẹ.

If we have wisdom within, if we do not use it, then we will become ignorant people. If we have ability within, if we do not use it, then we will become lazy people.

A dífá fún àwọn èyàn ‘Má bá ọlọgbón rìn; má bá aṣiṣé rẹ’, èrò isàlẹ̀ ayé.

Ifá divination was performed for the people of ‘Do not walk with wise ones; do not be friendly with workers’, travelers of the bottom part of the world.

Ifá m̀bá wọn wí, ó ni: “Ìwọ̀ kò bá ẹ̀ni-rere rìn. Ìwọ̀ kò bá ẹ̀ni-rere rẹ. Orí-bùburú ni ímú bá èyàn bí irú yín.”

Ifá was rebuking them, he said: “You do not walk with good people. You are not friendly with good people. It is bad luck that takes hold and meets people like your type.”

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 13:20] One who walks with wise ones will grow wise, but one who flocks together with fatheads will cry out in distress.

Òdí Méjì

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.04a *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) is doubled.

‘Yímíyímí abẹ̀yìn páálí’ l’ó dífá fún Orí, tí ibẹ̀ l’ógbèrè òun nìkanṣoṣo gírogíro. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ibọ̀ fún Orí Ẹ̀lẹ̀dàá.

It was ‘Dung beetle having a cardboard back’ who performed *Ifá* divination for Head, who was in abundance of himself being alone lonesomely (that is, he was in excessive loneliness). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*. He moreover did *ibọ̀* for *Orí Ẹ̀lẹ̀dàá* (Man’s godself).

Etí wá; etí bá Orí dúró. Kẹ̀rẹ̀kẹ̀rẹ̀, orí mi kò Ẹ̀lẹ̀ni. Imú wá; imú bá Orí dúró. Kẹ̀rẹ̀kẹ̀rẹ̀, orí mi kò Ẹ̀lẹ̀ni.

Ears came; Ears joined Head in staying. Little by little, my head does not fail to become one that is loved by many. Nose came; Nose joined Head in staying. Little by little, my head does not fail to become one that is loved by many.

Ojú wá; Ojú bá Orí dúró. Kẹ̀rẹ̀kẹ̀rẹ̀, orí mi kò Ẹ̀lẹ̀ni. Ẹ̀nu wá; Ẹ̀nu bá Orí dúró. Kẹ̀rẹ̀kẹ̀rẹ̀, orí mi kò Ẹ̀lẹ̀ni.

Eyes came; Eyes joined Head in staying. Little by little, my head does not fail to become one that is loved by many. Mouth came; Mouth joined Head in staying. Little by little, my head does not fail to become one that is loved by many.

Ìbọ̀: Fí epo, obì, orógbó, àtí ọ̀tí fún Orí Ẹ̀lẹ̀dàá.

An *ibọ̀*: Use palm oil (which is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly), kola nuts (which are used to further peaceful prosperity), bitter-kola nuts, and alcoholic beverage for *Orí Ẹ̀lẹ̀dàá*.

Extra: **1.** With suitable spiritual effort, one will inspire others to comply with his cause. **2.** Faring well depends on various factors working together in harmony.

04.04b *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) is doubled.

Message: [*Dilogún* 4-4] One can repent of one’s past mistakes or actions, but one has to bear the consequences.

Òdí Ìrosùn

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.05 *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) helps *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Message: [*Dilogún* 7-4] Not all that glitters is gold (that is, not everything that looks good is truly good).

Òdí Òwónrín

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.06 *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) helps *Òwónrín* (walking honorably).

‘Èmi kò maa kú; yíyè ni mo maa yè’ l’ó fún Òpè.

It was ‘I am not going to die; it is life that I will be living’ who performed *Ifá* divination for Palm-tree (who symbolizes a child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom).

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ṣe ibọ fún Èlà, alátúnṣe ayé, asọ-òrò-di-ayọ. Báyyí ni yóò fi ìdí múlẹ. Báyyí ni kò ní kú.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Èlà*, the master of improving one’s life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy. It was in this manner that he would cause (his) base to be established. It was in this manner that he would not die.

Òpè òò tirinmọlẹ. Òpè òò yè.

Palm-tree will be firmly rooted. Palm-tree will survive.

Extra: *Ifá* will help you to become soundly established in the earthly land of the living.

Òdí Òkànràn

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.08 *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) helps *Òkànràn* (giving something good its turn).

Òdí Òkànràn, a dífá fún Tèmi-òò-sunwọ̀n.

Òdí Òkànràn, *Ifá* divination was performed for ‘Mine will be good’.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì tẹfá. Báyyí n’ire nlá òò dé sí i.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover got initiated into *Ifá*. It was in this manner that great blessings would reach him.

Tèmi òò sunwọ̀n jù tiwọ̀n lọ o! Tèmi òò sunwọ̀n jù t’èké lọ. Tèmi òò sunwọ̀n jù tiwọ̀n lọ o!

Mine will be better than theirs! Mine will be better than that of deceitful people. Mine will be better than theirs!

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 16:20] One who gives attention to divine instruction will attain to what is good, and one who puts trust in *Ha’el* (God), how blessed is he!

Òdí Ògúndá

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.09 Òdí (having a sound foundation) is helped by Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action).

Èlà ní ìdí Ọmọ-Ògún dá. Mo ní ìdí Ọmọ-Ògún dá.

Èlà (the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) said that the bottom part of Ọmọ-Ògún (child of Ògún, the òrìṣà of iron and war) is lacking. I said that the bottom part of Ọmọ-Ògún is lacking.

A dé ilé Ọmọ-Ògún. A kò bá ẹnikan. Mo ní: “Ètírí tí a dé ilé Ọmọ-Ògún, tí a kò bá ẹnikan? Gbogbo ilé dá kése-kése.” Wọn ní: “Ìwà Ọmọ-Ògún kò sunwọn.”

We arrived at the home of Ọmọ-Ògún. We did not encounter anyone. I said: “What is it that has happened so that we have arrived at the house of Ọmọ-Ògún and have not encountered anyone? The entire house is wholly quiet.” They (others) said: “The character of Ọmọ-Ògún is not good.”

Ẹ̀jẹ̀, bí a bá wí pé kí ilé Ọmọ-Ògún kún, ẹ̀bọ̀ ní kí a ẹ̀.

Therefore, if we happen to say that the home of Ọmọ-Ògún ought to be full, then it is ẹ̀bọ̀ that ought to be done.

Extra: [*Dilogún* 7-3] Offensive actions do not give rise to love.

Òdí Ọsá

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.10 Òdí (having a sound foundation) is helped by Ọsá (taking timely action).

Ìdí sá; mi ò sá. Ìdí yàgò; mi ò yàgò.

Buttock ran away; I did not run away. Buttock gave way; I did not give way.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà nígbà tí t’ajogun nkàn ilẹ̀kùn rẹ̀. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀. Ó sì ẹ̀ ibọ̀ fún Èṣù àti Èlà. Bá yìí ní kò yàgò fún àwọn ajogun.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) when a distressful situation was knocking on his door. It was said that he ought to come doing ẹ̀bọ̀. He heard; he did ẹ̀bọ̀. He moreover did ibọ̀ for Èṣù (the òrìṣà of opportunity and crossroads tests) and Èlà. It was in this manner that he did not give way to ajogun (agents of distress).

Extra: Do not give way to the distressful situation knocking on your door.

Òdí Òtúrá

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.13 Òdí (having a sound foundation) helps Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation).

Ohun tí ojú wá l’ojú ní.

It is the thing that the eyes looked for that the eyes are seeing.

A dífá fún Adábàà nígbà tí ifẹ̀ sún àláàfià rẹ̀ síwájú. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀. Ó sì ẹ̀ ibọ̀ fún Èlà àti Orí Èlédàà. Bá yìí ní yòò sẹgun.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘One who proposes’ when he was wanting to further his well-being. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Ẹlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) and *Orí Ẹlédàá* (Man’s godself). It was in this manner that he would be victorious.

Àbá tí mo dá l’Ẹlà gbà. Àbá tí mo dá l’Orí gbà. Àbá rere l’àbá mi o!

It is the proposal that I put forth that *Ẹlà* accepts. It is the proposal that I put forth that *Orí* accepts. It is a good proposal that my proposal is!

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 16:3] Turn your works over to *Ha’el* (God) and your plans will be firmly established.

Òdí Ìrètẹ̀

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.14 *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) is helped by *Ìrètẹ̀* (practicing *Ifá*). *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) is hindered by *Ìrètẹ̀* (unwholesome influences).

Òdí Ìrètẹ̀, a difá fún Tèmi-lékè. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ibọ fún Òrìṣànlá àti Ẹlà. Báyí n’ire nlá oò dé sí i.

Òdí Ìrètẹ̀, *Ifá* divination was performed for ‘Mine is superior’. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Òrìṣànlá* (the *òrìṣà* of moral sense) and *Ẹlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). It was in this manner that great blessings would reach him.

Bí Òrìṣànlá kò bá mi wí, bí Ẹlà kò bá mi jà, tèmi l’ó lékè jù tiwọn lọ o! Tèmi l’ó lékè jù t’èké lọ. Tèmi l’ó lékè jù tiwọn lọ o!

If *Òrìṣànlá* does not admonish me, if *Ẹlà* does not engage me in fighting, then it is mine that is superior to theirs! It is mine that is superior to that of deceitful people. It is mine that is superior to theirs!

Extra: 1. [The Bible, Proverbs 10:28] That which is hoped for by righteous ones (will be) a glad outcome, but that which is longed for by unrighteous ones will come to nothing. 2. [*Dilogún* 7-16] Misfortune stems from malevolence and not from fate.

Òdí Òfún

[\[Back to Òdí\]](#)

04.16 *Òdí* (having a sound foundation) hinders *Òfún* (efforts of limited success).

Message: [*Dilogún* 7-10 revised] He goes astray because he does not want to see his proper path.

A05 Ìrosùn as the right leg

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[Ìrosùn Ogbè](#)

[Ìrosùn Méjì](#)

[Ìrosùn Ògúndá](#)

[Ìrosùn Òtúrá](#)

[Ìrosùn Òyèkú](#)

[Ìrosùn Òwónrín](#)

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[Ìrosùn Òbàrà](#)

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[Ìrosùn Òsé](#)

[Ìrosùn Òdí](#)

[Ìrosùn Òkànràn](#)

[Ìrosùn Òtúrúpòn](#)

[Ìrosùn Òfún](#)

Ìrosùn Ogbè

[\[Back to Ìrosùn\]](#)

05.01 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) helps *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Message: Stick to good principles through thick and thin.

Ìrosùn Òyèkú

[\[Back to Ìrosùn\]](#)

05.02 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) helps *Òyèkú* (averting ruin).

Igbá kẹlẹ̀ kì ifọ́. Àwo kẹlẹ̀ kì ifàya. Aşo kẹlẹ̀ kì igbó. Ohun tí a bá fì ẹsò mú kì íbàjẹ. Ohun tí a bá fì agbára mú nì ilẹ̀ kò bí ọ́tá.

A calabash handled with care never breaks. A plate handled with care never breaks into pieces. A cloth handled with care never wears out. A thing that we happen to use carefulness to take never gets spoiled. It is a thing that we happen to use forcefulness to take (it) that is able to confront (us) like an opponent.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà, tí ilọ gbé Kẹlẹ̀ n'iyàwó. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Èlà, afi inú ẹ ọgbón.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìşà of knowledge and wisdom), who went taking Handled-with-care as a wife. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for Èlà, the one who uses (his) insides to practice wisdom.

Kíl'a fì mú Kẹlẹ̀ délé? Ẹsò l'awa fì mú Kẹlẹ̀ délé, ẹsò nì.

What is it that we use to take Handled-with-care home? It is carefulness that we use to take Handled-with-care home, carefulness it is.

Extra: Faring well depends on being cautious and considerate.

Ìrosùn Òdí

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05.04 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) is helped by *Òdí* (having a sound foundation).

Message: [*Dilogún* 4-7] Set goals that are in accordance with your abilities and possibilities.

Ìrosùn Méjì

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05.05a *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) is doubled.

Ení pòropòro l'àá gún odó. Èjì pòropòro l'àá gún osùn.

It is one by one that we will pound a mortar. It is two by two that we will pound camwood.
[Note: Here are two activities that require patience and perseverance].

A dífá fún Bàbá 'Bí o l'ẹ́jọ́, o bá ipín rẹ wí' nígbàtí írí ayé ìsòro. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ibọ́ fún Orí Ẹ̀lédàá.

Ifá divination was performed for Father 'If you have an issue, then engage your destiny in telling it' when he was experiencing a life of difficulty. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Orí Ẹ̀lédàá* (Man's godself).

Kò pé; kò jìnnà. Ire gbogbo wá yá dé tùtùru.

It did not take long; it was not far away. Every good thing came flooding in to arrive plentifully.

Ọ̀rọ̀ kò kàn egúngún. Kò kàn òrìṣà. Ẹ̀lédàá ẹnì l'ọ̀rọ̀ lóòókán.

The matter does not touch *egúngún* (honorable ancestors). It does not touch *òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents). One's *Ẹ̀lédàá* has the matter exactly on the spot.

Extra: [a saying from Ra Un Nefer Amen] As long as you are anything less than the vehicle of God, you will go through experiences that will make you suffer as spurs to your spiritual realization.

05.05b *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) is doubled.

Ìgbà ọ̀ò rú ilá. Ìgbà ọ̀ò rú ikàn. A kì íwá ayé àìnígbà.

Time will arouse okra to develop. Time will arouse eggplant to develop. We never come to earth not having (our own) times.

Extra: Each person or thing develops according to its own time.

Ìrosùn Ọ̀bàrà

[\[Back to Ìrosùn\]](#)

05.07 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) is helped by *Ọ̀bàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity).

Bù fún mi kí N bù fún ọ. Bá'yí l'ayé ọ̀ò maa gún.

Take off a portion for me and I take off a portion for you (that is, let us engage in give-and-take). It is in this manner that life will always be right.

A dífá fún Ọ̀mọ-Ẹ̀là, tí ilọ sí Ọ̀tu-Ifẹ̀. Yóò maa kọ́ wọn n'íse ilé. Yóò maa kọ́ wọn n'íse oko. Yóò maa kọ́ wọn n'íwà tí ó bójúmu.

Ifá divination was performed for *Omọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), who was going to *Ilé-Ifẹ̀* (a *Yorùbá* town that symbolizes earthly life). He will be teaching them about town customs. He will be teaching them about rural customs. He will be teaching them about behavior that is decent.

A ní: “Omọ-Èlà òò wí fún wọn. Wọn òò gbọ́.” Sùgbón kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó tó lọ wí fún wọn. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

It was said: “*Omọ-Èlà* will tell them. They will listen.” But he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* before he reached the point of going away to tell them. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ẹbọ: Fi ọ̀pọ̀lọ̀pọ̀ orógbó, ọ̀gèdè-àgbàgbà, àti ẹgbàájọ owó. Fi àkóse Ifá.

An *ẹbọ*: Use plenty of bitter-kola nuts, plantains, and money worth 16000 cowries. Use *Ifá* medicine.

Àkóse Ifá: Gún ewé ọgbó àti ọṣẹ pọ́ fún wíwẹ.

Ifá medicine: Pound *ọgbó* leaves (*Parquetina nigrescens*: used to convey prayerful affirmations, to dispel negative energy, and to attract positive energy) and soap to be together for cleansing yourself.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will succeed in furthering decent behavior.

Ìrosùn Ọkànràn

[\[Back to Ìrosùn\]](#)

05.08a *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) hinders *Ọkànràn* (touching trouble).

Olú kì íran iwọ̀sí. Olú kòyà iwọ̀sí. Ẹni tí kò lè kòyà iwọ̀sí, iyà kì íyẹ, wọn ńjẹ ẹ.

A chief never sends insults. A chief deflects insults. (For) the person who is not able to deflect insults, suffering never ceases, they (insults) are inflicting him.

A dífá fún Ọlọgbón, tí íṣe ọmọ awo. Ọlọgbón ní òun yóò maa ṣégún ọ́tá, òun òò maa rí ẹ̀yìn ọ̀dídí. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for Wise-person, who was a child of a priest. Wise-person said that he would be overcoming opponents, that he would be seeing the back side of blockages. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Extra: Do not be intimidated – take assertive, noble-minded action.

05.08b *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) hinders *Ọkànràn* (touching trouble).

Message: [*Dilogún* 4-1] Acting on impulse gives rise to loss.

Ìrosùn Ọ̀gúndá

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05.09 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) is helped by *Ọ̀gúndá* (having the courage to take right action).

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ́. Kí ó sì wá ṣe ibọ́ fún Orí Ẹlédàá. Báyii l’orí-inú rẹ̀ kò ní bà orí-àpéré rẹ̀ jẹ́.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Orí Èlédàà* (Man's godself). It is in this manner that his *orí-inú* (that is, prevailing mental and emotional attitude) will not ruin his personal destiny.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 51:10] Create in me *ʔElōhīm* (Creator God and his ministerial agents) a clean heart (that is, prevailing mental and emotional attitude) and reestablish a stable spirit within me.

Ìrosùn Ọsá

[\[Back to Ìrosùn\]](#)

05.10 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) helps *Ọsá* (taking timely action).

Àfẹfẹ ẹ orí igi mí hẹlẹhẹlẹ. Ẹfúùfù líle ní ìtí ewé. Àgbọ̀n ní ìkọ̀ rọ̀.

A breeze caused the top of the tree to gasp. It was a strong wind that was pushing the leaves. It was the coconut that was refusing to fall.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó baà lè fí ifarabalẹ́ ká ayé. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́. Báyií ní yóò sẹgun ọ́tá. Báyií ní yóò rí ẹ̀yìn ọ̀dídí.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọmọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to use calmness and sober thinking to handle life. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. It was in this manner that he would overcome opponents. It was in this manner that he would see the back side of blockages.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 112:7] Of bad tidings he (a righteous one) does not feel afraid; stable is his heart (that is, prevailing mental and emotional attitude), trust being put in *Haʔel* (God) to not fail.

Ìrosùn Ọtúrá

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05.13 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) is helped by *Ọtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

Bí ewúré bá ńrìn lókè ọ̀giri, ẹ̀yin ní, ẹ̀yin èèyàn. Ẹ̀yin èèyàn lè ńṣe bẹ̀ẹ̀. Ẹ̀nìà, ẹ̀nìà.

If a she-goat happens to be walking upon a wall, then it is (because of) you, you human beings. You human beings are able to be causing (something) like that. Be humane, be humane.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó ẹ̀nìà. Kí olúwarẹ́ wá rúbọ́. Kí ó sì wá ẹ̀ ẹ̀bọ́ fún Èlà. Báyií ní kò ní tẹ́ nítorí àṣìṣe.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to be humane. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). It is in this manner that he will not fall into disgrace because of mistakes (that is, wrong actions, beliefs, or judgments).

Extra: [a saying from Clive Staples Lewis] Free will, though it makes evil possible, is also the only thing that makes possible any love or goodness or joy worth having.

Ìrosùn Ìrètè

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05.14 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) is hindered by *Ìrètè* (unwholesome influences).

‘Ògbó tètè’, awo alède, l’ó dífá fún wọn ní Odò-mégbè, ibi tí wọn m̀bẹ̀ láàárín ìnira nítorí tí baba nlá wọn m̀bẹ̀ l’áìsimi. Wọn kò rọ̀ baba nlá wọn nítorí tí kò mò orò tí àwọn baba nlá.

It was ‘Elder tètè-plant’, the priest of the frontage, who performed *Ifá* divination for those at ‘Dried-up river’, the place where they were in the midst of burdensome difficulties because their ancestors were in unrest. They did not put their ancestors at ease because they did not know the rituals pertaining to ancestors.

A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ. Wọn sì ẹ̀ ibọ̀ fún baba nlá wọn. Báyii ni ìnira wọn ọ̀ò lọ.

It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. They heard; they did *ẹ̀bọ*. They moreover did *ibọ* for their ancestors. It was in this manner that their burdensome difficulties would go away.

Ẹ̀jẹ́, àwa ní baba nlá lónií o, a ní baba nlá!

Therefore, we have ancestors today, we have ancestors!

Extra: One will not be at ease until one puts one’s ancestor(s) at ease.

Ìrosùn Ọ̀ṣẹ́

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05.15 *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty) is helped by *Ọ̀ṣẹ́* (overcoming through joyful optimism).

Ọ̀fọ̀: Ẹ̀là ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́.” Mo ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́.” Ó ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́ fún iṣu tí íta.” Ẹ̀là ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́.” Mo ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́.” Ó ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́ fún àgbàdò tí iyo ọ̀mọ.” Ẹ̀là ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́.” Mo ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́.” Ó ní: “Ó ẹ̀ pèrẹ́ fún àgàn tí ídì ọ̀lómọ.”

Incantation: *Ẹ̀là* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) said: “It is getting better (literally, it is made to open widely).” I said: “It is getting better.” He said: “It is getting better for the yam that is sprouting.” *Ẹ̀là* said: “It is getting better.” I said: “It is getting better for the maize that is getting rid of offspring (that is, ears of corn).” *Ẹ̀là* said: “It is getting better.” I said: “It is getting better.” He said: “It is getting better for the barren woman who is becoming a possessor of children.”

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí yóò ẹ̀ pèrẹ́ fún un. Kí ó wá rúbọ. Báyii l’ohun kan tí yóò maa ẹ̀, yóò di ẹnì iya nìbẹ̀.

Ifá says that there is someone for whom it will get better. He ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. It is in this manner that a thing that he will be doing, he will become a person of honor there.

Àkóse Ifá: Lọ ewé ẹ̀funṣẹ́fun, ewé ẹ̀fúnlẹ̀, àti ewé ire pẹ̀lú orí eku méjì àti orí ẹ̀ja méjì. Pò ẹ̀tù yìi pẹ̀lú ọ̀ṣẹ́. Pa ẹ̀yẹlé àti tẹ̀ orí rẹ̀ mó ọ̀ṣẹ́ nàà. Pè ọ̀fọ̀ nàà s’ìyẹ̀ròsùn tí o ti tẹ̀ lí Ìrosùn Ọ̀ṣẹ́. Kó ọ̀ṣẹ́ nàà sínú igbá pẹ̀lú iyẹ̀ròsùn yìi. Wíwẹ̀ nì.

Ifá medicine: Grind *ẹ̀funṣẹ́fun* leaves (*Aerva lanata*: used to attract prosperity and to ward off negative energy), *ẹ̀fúnlẹ̀* leaves (*Evolvulus alsinoides*: used to dispel negative energy and to attract positive energy), and *ire* leaves (*Funtumia elastica*: used to attract blessings) together

with the heads of two rats (which are used to help someone to be resourceful) and the heads of two fishes. Mix this powder together with soap. Kill a pigeon (which is used to help someone to fly majestically above dangers) and press its head onto the aforementioned soap. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to *ìyẹ̀ròsùn* that you have imprinted with *Ìrosùn Ọ̀ṣẹ́*. Take the aforementioned soap into a calabash together with this *ìyẹ̀ròsùn*. A cleansing it is to be.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, it will get better for someone here.

A06 Òwónrín as the right leg

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Òwónrín Ogbè	Òwónrín Ìrosùn	Òwónrín Ògúndá	Òwónrín Òtúrá
Òwónrín Òyèkú	Òwónrín Méjì	Òwónrín Òsá	Òwónrín Ìretè
Òwónrín Ìwòrì	Òwónrín Òbàrà	Òwónrín Ìká	Òwónrín Òṣé
Òwónrín Òdì	Òwónrín Òkànràn	Òwónrín Òtúrùpòn	Òwónrín Òfún

Òwónrín Ogbè

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06.01 *Òwónrín* (walking honorably) is helped by *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Bonranhún l'awo òde Ìdó. Òpè gọrọngọbì l'awo òde Ìjẹṣà. Èrìgì dúdú l'awo òde Ìmọṣàkún.

It was *Bonranhún* who was the priest of *Ìdó* town. It was *Òpè gọrọngọbì* who was the priest of *Ìjẹṣà* town. It was *Èrìgì dúdú* who was the priest of *Ìmọṣàkún* town.

A dífá fún Olófin Òbẹlẹnjẹ, tí íbá ibi ísùn lọ, tí íbá ibi íjì. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for King *Òbẹlẹnjẹ*, who was falling asleep with nasty energy, who was waking up with nasty energy. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Oní l'aládé sìn ibi rè ẹlùjù. Oní l'aládé kó ire wá ilé. Igba ewé ọlówònràn-nṣánṣán ní kí ibi dī ẹrù kí ó maa lọ o!

It is today that the king escorted nasty energy to go to the deep forest. It is today that the king brought good energy home. Two hundred *ọlówònràn-nṣánṣán* leaves (*Sida acuta*: used to sweep away negative energy) told nasty energy to tie its load (for undertaking a journey) and to get going!

Òwónrín Ìwòrì

[\[Back to Òwónrín\]](#)

06.03 *Òwónrín* (walking honorably) helps *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen).

Òwónrín wé rere. Ìwòrì wé rere.

Òwónrín coils around that which is good. *Ìwòrì* coils around that which is good.

A dífá fún Ejò. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó baà lè fí ẹnu rè n'íyọrísí gbígbóra. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Lẹhìn tí ó rúbọ tán, ó lè fí ẹnu rè sọ oró.

Ifá divination was performed for Snake. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to use his mouth to have a powerful effect. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. After he had done *ẹbọ* completely, he was able to use his mouth to emit venom.

Kò pé; kò jìnnà. Ẹ wá bá ẹnì ní jẹbútú ire.

It will not take long; it is not far away. Come join us in plenty of good things.

Extra: Described here is someone whose words have a beneficial penetrating influence on others.

Ọwónrín Ọdí

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06.04 Ọwónrín (walking honorably) is helped by Ọdí (having a sound foundation).

Ọwónrín dí ọwọ mọ. Ọwónrín dí ẹsẹ mọ. A ní kí ó fi ohun tọrẹ kí afẹfẹ baà lè maa fẹ èrè wá ilé. Ó ní òun kò fi ohun tọrẹ.

Ọwónrín holds (his) hands firmly. Ọwónrín holds (his) feet firmly. It was said that he ought to give generously so that the wind may be able to get blowing gains to come home (that is, to come his way). He said that he was not giving generously.

A dífá fún Alábawun-ìjápá. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ọràn ìpọnjú má baà lè dé sí i.

Ifá divination was performed for Stingy-turtle. It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ so that a matter of hardship may not be able to reach him.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 11:24-25] There is one who gives freely but is increased repeatedly and (there is) one who withholds more than what is appropriate but surely is headed for deficiency. A person who furthers the well-being of others will be made to fare well, and one who waters others, he also will be watered.

Ọwónrín Méjì

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06.06 Ọwónrín (walking honorably) is doubled.

Àti Ẹṣin àti Àgbò, awo ilé Ọ̀nì Alà̀nà̀kà̀n-È̀sùú, dífá fún Ọ̀nì nígbà̀tí kò júbà àwọn baba nlá rẹ mọ, nígbà̀tí یشه ohun gbogbo tí ọ̀kan kò yànjú. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Both Horse and Ram, the priests of the house of King Alà̀nà̀kà̀n-È̀sùú, performed Ifá divination for the Ifẹ king when he did not pay respect to his ancestors anymore, when he was doing everything for which (each) one did not find an answer. It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. He heard; he did ẹbọ.

Ìbà Bàbá. Ìbà Yẹyẹ. Ìbà Olúwo. Ìbà Ojùgbọ̀nà. Ìbà Akódá, tí íkọ gbogbo ayé n'Ífá. Ìbà Aṣẹdá, tí íkọ gbogbo àgbà n'ímọ̀ràn.

Reverence to Father. Reverence to Mother. Reverence to the priest who initiated me. Reverence to the priest who assisted him during initiation. Reverence to Akódá (a famous Ifá disciple), who taught the whole world about Ifá. Reverence to Aṣẹdá (another famous Ifá disciple), who taught all of the elders about wise counsel.

Àyàfi èyítí mo dáṣe, kí Orò má ṣàì gbà.

Except that which I do without approval from a higher authority, may Orò (a revered Yorùbá ancestor) not fail to accept.

Extra: Your honorable elders are your partners for faring well.

Òwónrín Òbàrà

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06.07a Òwónrín (taking measured action) helps Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity).

Ó rí mi, sùgbón mi ò rí i. Èlà ní ohun tí kí a maa rí, ó mbẹ nítòsí ẹni. Sùgbón òkùnkùn inú ẹni ni kò jẹkí a rí i.

It sees me, but I do not see it. Èlà (the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) said that the thing that we ought to be seeing, it is near us. But it is our inner darkness that does not allow that we see it.

Ifá ní ẹnikan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ kí ohun tí kí ó maa rí, ó baà lè rí i dájúdájú. Èlà óò fí í hàn.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing ẹbọ so that the thing that he ought to be seeing, he may be able to see it surely. Èlà will make it visible.

Extra: A lack of clear-sightedness has caused one to miss seeing something that is important and obvious.

06.07b Òwónrín (walking honorably) is helped by Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity).

Òwónrín l'awo Pa-arò. Òbàrà l'awo Ẹ-ayò.

It is Òwónrín who is the priest of 'He overwhelms sadness'. It is Òbàrà who is the priest of 'He undergoes joy'.

A dífá fún Omọ-Ẹàngó, tí yóò ẹgun ọtá, tí yóò rí ẹyìn òdídí.

Ifá divination was performed for Omọ-Ẹàngó (child of Ẹàngó, the deified Ọyọ king who detests immorality and strikes wrongdoers with lightning), who would overcome opponents, who would see the back side of blockages.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Ẹàngó, Jẹnrólá, arí igba ọta ẹgun. Báyii ni yóò lè ẹ ipinnu tí ó sún àláàfià rẹ síwájú.

It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. He heard; he did ẹbọ. He moreover did ibọ for Ẹàngó, 'Allow me to see honor (a praise name of Ẹàngó)', the one who finds 200 stones in order to be victorious. It was in this manner that he would be able to make decisions that further his well-being.

Extra: By tapping into the energy of Ẹàngó, one will prevail through dignity and decisiveness.

Òwónrín Òkànràn

[\[Back to Òwónrín\]](#)

06.08 Òwónrín (taking measured action) helps Òkànràn (giving something good its turn).

Message: Use a tried-and-true methodology that ensures a worthy outcome.

Òwónrín Ògúndá

[\[Back to Òwónrín\]](#)

06.09 Òwónrín (walking honorably) is helped by Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action).

Mo jí; t'Ifá mi ni mo nse. Mo mọ̀ràn; t'Ọ̀pẹ̀ mi ni mo ńtọ̀ lẹ̀yìn. Bí mo bá kọ gbáangan-gbangan, mi ò n'ílẹ̀ oníyẹ̀yẹ̀ dé. Bí Ifá bá wí fún mi ni mo nse.

I wake up; it is according to my *Ifá* that I am acting. I am knowledgeable; it is according to my *Ọ̀pẹ̀* (Palm-tree, a name of *Ifá*) that I am following behind. If I happen to cry out in great confusion, then I will not have the house of a flippant person to arrive at. It is as *Ifá* happens to tell me that I am acting.

A dífá fún Ẹ̀òótọ̀Ẹ̀òótọ̀. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀ kí nkan rẹ̀ baà lẹ̀ gún. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀. Ẹ̀òótọ̀Ẹ̀òótọ̀ m̀bá ọ̀ótọ̀ lẹ̀. Nkan rẹ̀ gún. Ayé yẹ̀ é.

Ifá divination was performed for Truth-doer. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀* so that his affair may be able to be in good order. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ̀*. Truth-doer was going along with truth. His affair was in good order. Life was right for him.

Mo jí; t'Ifá mi ni mo nse. Mo mọ̀ràn; t'Ọ̀pẹ̀ mi ni mo ńtọ̀ lẹ̀yìn. Bí mo bá kọ gbáangan-gbangan, mi ò n'ílẹ̀ oníyẹ̀yẹ̀ dé. Bí Ifá bá wí fún mi ni mo nse.

I wake up; it is according to my *Ifá* that I am acting. I am knowledgeable; it is according to my *Ọ̀pẹ̀* that I am following behind. If I happen to cry out in great confusion, then I will not have the house of a flippant person to arrive at. It is as *Ifá* happens to tell me that I am acting.

A dífá fún Ẹ̀ìkàẸ̀ìkà. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀ kí ó má baà ẹ̀ìkà mọ̀. Ó kọ̀; kò rúbọ̀. Ẹ̀ìkàẸ̀ìkà nse tírẹ̀. Kò gbádùn. Ara kò rọ̀jú tù ú.

Ifá divination was performed for Evildoer. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀* so that he may not do evil anymore. He refused; he did not do *ẹ̀bọ̀*. Evildoer was doing his own thing. He was not in a state of well-being. (His) body did not have the opportunity to calm him.

Gbogbo ẹ̀ni tí ó bá ńṣìkà, kí ó ńwọ̀. Oore ni kí ó maa se.

Every person who happens to be practicing evil, he ought to desist. It is kindness that he ought to be practicing.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 12:15] The way of a wayward one is satisfactory in his own eyes, but one who listens obediently to sagacious advice is a wise one.

Ọ̀wọ̀nrín Ọ̀sá

[\[Back to Ọ̀wọ̀nrín\]](#)

06.10 Ọ̀wọ̀nrín (walking honorably) is helped by Ọ̀sá (taking timely action).

Message: [*Dilogún* 11-9] In order to not go through disgrace, be circumspect and wise like the ant.

Ọ̀wọ̀nrín Ìkà

[\[Back to Ọ̀wọ̀nrín\]](#)

06.11 Ọ̀wọ̀nrín (taking measured action) helps Ìkà (reaping a reward).

Èlà ní Ọ̀wọ̀nrín Ìkà. Mo ní Ọ̀wọ̀nrín Ìkà. Mo ní: “È̀étirí tí Ọ̀wọ̀n ńrín kàrà-kàrà?” Èlà dáhùn, ó ní: “Ọ̀wọ̀n ńrín kàrà-kàrà nítorí tí ohun rere gbogbo wà n'ílẹ̀.”

Èlà (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) said Ọ̀wọ̀nrín Ìkà. I said Ọ̀wọ̀nrín Ìkà. I said: “How is it that Ọ̀wọ̀n is laughing loudly-loudly?” *Èlà* answered, he said: “Ọ̀wọ̀n is laughing loudly-loudly because every good thing is in the home.”

Ayé Ọwọn gún gégé. Ọwọn nǵbé ohun gbogbo wá sórí iwọn. Ọwọn kì íjẹun kí ó má wọn ọn kí ó tó jẹ ẹ. Ọwọn kì ímu omi kí ó má wọn ọn kí ó tó mu ń. Ọwọn kì ilò aṣọ kí ó má wọn ọn kí ó tó ló ń. Ọwọn kì íkólé kí ó má wọn ọn kí ó tó kọ ọ.

The life of Ọwọn is exactly right. Ọwọn brings everything to the scale. Ọwọn never eats food so that he does not measure it before he reaches the point of eating it. Ọwọn never drinks water so that he does not measure it before he reaches the point of drinking it. Ọwọn never uses cloth so that he does not measure it before he reaches the point of using it. Ọwọn never builds a house so that he does not measure it before he reaches the point of building it.

A dífá fún ‘Afi iwọn ẹ ohun gbogbo’. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó má bá jù iwọn nù láíláí. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘One who uses measurement to do everything’. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may not happen to throw balance away ever. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Extra: Do not overstep fitting limits.

Ọwónrín Ọtúra

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06.13 Ọwónrín (taking measured action) helps **Ọtúra** (averting a worrisome situation).

Ìjámíjà kò múrasílẹ̀ lẹ́ẹkan. A dífá fún Ìgbín, tí ilọ bá Ẹkùn jà jùjà ọjìjì.

A great fighter is not in readiness for one instance only. *Ifá* divination was performed for Snail, who went engaging Leopard in sudden fighting.

A ní: “Ẹkùn wá n’ímúratélé nígbàgbogbo. Kí Ìgbín má ẹ. Ẹni tí a kò lè mú, Ẹlédàá l’áá fún.” A ní kí Ìgbín wá rúbọ kí ipín baà jà fún un. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was said: “Leopard comes in prior preparedness every time. Snail ought not to take action as intended (that is, Snail ought not to fight Leopard toe-to-toe). The person whom we are not able to get, it is *Ẹlédàá* (Creator God) to whom we will give him.” It was said that Snail ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that destiny may fight for him. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ọwónrín Ìrètẹ

[\[Back to Ọwónrín\]](#)

06.14a Ọwónrín (taking measured action; walking honorably) hinders **Ìrètẹ** (unwholesome influences).

Kò sí ogun ní pápá. Kò sí ọtẹ láárín ilú.

There is no war in the fields. There is no conspiracy within the cities.

A dífá fún Ọlọfin Iwajọ. A ní ọtẹ rẹ lórí oyè ọò sunwọn. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ayọ ìgbà rẹ má baà mú ọpọlópọ èyàn di ọlẹ tàbí asínwín. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for King *Iwajọ*. It was said that his time at the head of the chieftancy would be good. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that the joy of his time may not cause plenty of people to become lazy or insane. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Extra: Regarding the matter in question, do not take any drastic action at this time.

06.14b *Òwónrín* (taking measured action; walking honorably) hinders *Ìrètè* (unwholesome influences).

Èyítí íbẹ̀ nínú rẹ̀, kò sí nínú mì. Èyítí íbẹ̀ nínú mì, kò sí nínú rẹ̀.

That which is in your mind, it is not in my mind. That which is in my mind, it is not in your mind.

A dífá fún Onínúrerere, tí wón maa fi ọ̀ràn ìkà lòdì sí i. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Kindhearted-person, whom they (others) were intending to use a matter of evil against him. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ifá wá rí nínú o! Ilẹ̀ rí ìkà. Ẹni tí íṣe rere, Ẹlédàá mò.

Ifá comes seeing that which is in the mind! Mother Earth sees (that is, recognizes) evil. The person who practices goodness, *Ẹlédàá* (Creator God) knows.

Ifá ní ẹ̀nikan wà tí kí ó ṣe rere nígbàgbogbo. Ìwà rere ni yóò sùn àláàfià rẹ̀ síwájú. Ẹ̀gbón kí olúwarẹ̀ wá rúbọ.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to practice goodness at all times. It is good character that will further his well-being. But the person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ*.

Òwónrín Òfún

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06.16 *Òwónrín* (taking measured action) hinders *Òfún* (efforts of limited success).

Bí ohun bá nù fún ẹni, kí ohùn má nù fún ní.

If a thing gets lost for a person, then (his) voice ought not to get lost for having it (that is, he ought not to stop laying claim to it).

A dífá fún ẹni tí ifi omi ojú sògbéré ire. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for a person who was using teardrops to cry about good things. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Bí ohun bá nù fún ẹni, kí ohùn má nù fún ní.

If a thing gets lost for a person, then (his) voice ought not to get lost for having it.

Extra: Lay claim to the good things that are rightfully yours.

A07 Òbàrà as the right leg

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Òbàrà Ogbè

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07.01 Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity) helps Ogbè (a wholesome road).

Ikú, yòrò o! Àrùn, yòrò o!

Death, melt away! Illness, melt away!

A dífá fún wọn l'óde Ìdó nígbàtí ajogun ká wọn mó pítipiti. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ. Wọn sì se ibọ fún Èlà, alátúnse ayé, asọ-òrò-di-ayọ.

Ifá divination was performed for those in Ìdó town when *ajogun* (agents of distress) encircled them completely. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. They heard; they did *ẹbọ*. They moreover did *ibọ* for Èlà (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the master of improving one's life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy.

Ikú tí ibẹ n'ílẹ̀ yìí, àrùn tí ibẹ n'ílẹ̀ yìí, ajogun gbogbo tí ibẹ n'ílẹ̀ yìí, kí ó dẹrù kí ó maa lọ o, Òwìrìwìrì! Àá fí iná Ifá wí í lára o, Òwìrìwìrì!

Death that is in this house, illness that is in this house, every *ajogun* that is in this house, it ought to tie its load (for undertaking a journey) and to get going, *Òwìrìwìrì!* We will use the fire of *Ifá* to singe it, *Òwìrìwìrì!*

Jó itùfù méréń kí èéfin wọn ọ̀ò kún ilé. Jẹ́kí èéfin yíí kàn ohun ẹ̀bọ.

Burn 4 *itùfù* (which are grass incense bundles used for house cleansing) so that their smoke will fill the house. Allow that this smoke touches the *ẹbọ* items.

Ìbọ: Fí ị̀ṣu tí o sè láti fún Èlà.

An *ibọ*: Use a yam that you have cooked in order to give to Èlà.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will dispel agents of distress.

Òbàrà Ìwòrì

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07.03a Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity) helps Ìwòrì (good things becoming seen; seeing things clearly).

Òrọ̀ bàntà ọ̀ò wúwo bí owú.

Important matters will be heavy like an anvil.

A dífá fún ayé nígbàtí àwọn ọmọ aráyé ńpọn owó. Wọn ní kò sí ohun tí ó n'íyí nínú ayé tí ó jù owó lọ. Nítorínaà, owó l'ohun ọ̀so tí àwọn ọ̀o maa sáré lé.

Ifá divination was performed for the world when the people of the world were smothering money with praise. They said that there was no thing that had respect in the world that surpassed money. Therefore, it was money that was the only thing that they would be pursuing.

Èlà ní bèèni àti bèèkó. 'Agbè ẹni ga' l'a pè owó. 'Abà iwà jẹ' l'a pè owó. Ẹni tí ó bá fẹràn owó l'áfẹjù, iwà rẹ ọ̀o bàjẹ. Iwà rere l'ọ̀sọ èyàn.

Èlà (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) said that it was so and that it was not so. It is 'One that elevates a person' that money is called. It is 'One that spoils character' that money is called. The person who happens to love money with an intense affection, his character will be spoiled. It is good character that is the adornment of a human being.

Owó níní kò ní kí ẹ má di afọjú. Owó níní kò ní kí ẹ má di arọ. Owó níní kò ní kí ẹ má di aṣiwèrè. Owó níní kò ní kí ẹ má di olókùnrun àti bèbèbè.

Money possession does not say that you do not become a blind person. Money possession does not say that you do not become a lame person. Money possession does not say that you do not become an insane person. Money possession does not say that you do not become a chronically ill person and so forth.

Ogbon ni kí a maa yé. Òun ni kí a maa bù iyin fún. Iwà rere ni kí a maa yé. Òun ni kí a maa bù iyin fún.

It is wisdom that we ought to be holding in high regard. It is that to which we ought to be portioning out praise. It is good character that we ought to be holding in high regard. It is that to which we ought to be portioning out praise.

Ẹjẹ, ẹ jẹ tún ogbon gbọn, kí ẹ tún èrò gbà, kí ẹ mú iwà rere hù. Kí ẹ sì wá rúbọ kí ara baà lè rọ yín tinú-tòde.

Therefore, be willing to work at wisdom to be wise, so that you may work at (which) thoughts to accept, so that you may take good character to develop. Y'all ought moreover to come doing *ẹbọ* so that (your) bodies may be able to put you at ease inside and outside.

Extra: [The Bible, 1 Timothy 6:10-11] For a root of all types of bad things is the excessive love of money, and some persons, by longing for it, have been led astray from trust (in God) and have wounded themselves deeply with many sorrows. But you, O person of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, having trust (in God), kindheartedness, patient perseverance, and gentleness.

07.03b Ọ̀bàrà (asserting oneself with dignity) is helped by *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly).

Ohun tí a baà lè ẹ l'áà dǎwọ́lẹ e. A kì ídǎwọ́lẹ ohun tí a kò baà lè ẹ.

That which we may be able to do, it is that on which we will embark. We never embark on that which we may not be able to do.

Ifá ní ẹnikan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ẹ ibọ fún Ẹ̀ṣù. Báyii ni kò ní tọ ọ lówó.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Ẹ̀ṣù* (the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests). It is in this manner that he will not go astray.

Òbàrà Òdí

[\[Back to Òbàrà\]](#)

07.04 Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity) is helped by Òdí (having a sound foundation).

Igbá-lórí-àmù, awo àwọn obìnrin, l'ó dífá fún Alágbèrè. Gbogbo ọkùnrin ni ifi idí bá idí rẹ.

It was 'Calabash on top of the large water pot', the priest of women, who performed *Ifá* divination for Prostitute. It was every man who was using (his) lower parts to meet her lower parts. [Note: Prostitute was allowing every man to have his way with her].

A ní: “Òwò àìpé l'ò nṣe. Obìnrin àgbèrè kì íní iyì dì alẹ. Obìnrin kì ifi òwò idí ilà.” A ní kí Alágbèrè jẹwọ ọbùn rẹ. Kí ó sì wá rúbọ.

It was said: “It is a business that amounts to nothing that you are undertaking. A woman of prostitution never has honor to late in life. A woman never uses the business of lower parts to be prosperous.” It was said that Prostitute ought to confess her foul condition. She ought moreover to come doing *ẹbọ*.

Àkóse Ifá: Lọ ewé ẹsọ àti iyèré diẹ láti sè gégẹbí ọbẹ pẹlú igbín. Tún lọ ewé ẹsọ kí o baà lè pò wọn pò òrì fún ríra òbò rẹ. Gún ewé ẹsọ àti ọṣẹ pò fún wíwẹ.

Ifá medicine: Grind *ẹsọ* leaves (*Elytraria marginata*: used to further careful attention) and a few Ashanti peppers to cook according to a soup together with snails (whose slow movement symbolizes calmness and caution that avert trouble). Grind *ẹsọ* leaves again so that you may be able to blend them with shea butter (which is used to dispel negative energy and to attract positive energy) for rubbing your vagina. Pound *ẹsọ* leaves and soap to be together for cleansing yourself.

Extra: Do not allow ignoble influences to have their way with you.

Òbàrà Ìrosùn

[\[Back to Òbàrà\]](#)

07.05 Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity) helps Ìrosùn (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Òbàrà, síṣùn tí sùn l'ogun fi kó ilé Alará. Òbàrà, síṣùn tí sùn l'ogun fi kó ilé Ijerò. Òbàrà, síṣùn tí sùn l'ogun fi kó Òkè-Ìtasẹ.

Òbàrà, it is the sleep that you slept that war used to plunder *Alará* town. Òbàrà, it is the sleep that you slept that war used to plunder *Ijerò* town. Òbàrà, it is the sleep that you slept that war used to plunder Òkè-Ìtasẹ.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlẹ̀ nígbatí t'ajogun nkàn ilẹ̀kùn rẹ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlẹ̀ (child of Èlẹ̀, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) when a distressful situation was knocking on his door. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ñjẹ, Ikú o, maa lọ! Àrùn o, maa lọ! Èjọ gbé mi tì. Òfò o, maa lọ! Ajogun gbogbo, maa lọ! “Maa lọ, maa lọ” l'ẹ̀sẹ̀ nké.

Therefore, Death, get going! Illness, get going! Litigation, get going! Loss, get going! Every *ajogun* (agent of distress), get going! It is “Get going, get going” that the cat is crying out. [Note: Many people believe that cats can remove negative energy from their environment].

Extra: Wake up and deal with the distressful situation knocking on your door.

Òbàrà Méjì

[\[Back to Òbàrà\]](#)

07.07 Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity) is doubled.

Ó sẹ̀ mi pẹ̀lẹ̀ngẹ̀, ọ̀wọ̀ mi ọ̀tún. Ó rọ̀ mi mìnìjò, ọ̀wọ̀ mi òsì. Ewé kókò méjì nì ilù ara wọn pẹ̀lẹ̀ngẹ̀-pẹ̀lẹ̀ngẹ̀. Abẹ̀bẹ̀ ọ̀jẹ̀ nì ímú ọ̀jú ọ̀lọ̀jà tutù nini.

It overcomes me delicately, my right-hand side. It soothes me smoothly, my left-hand side. It is two cocoyam leaves that are beating each other very delicately. It is a fan of lead that is making the king's face very cool. [Note: Each preceding statement describes a situation of ease and enjoyment].

A dífá fún èyítí yòò di Olú Ìdó, abẹ̀jìgbàrà-ilẹ̀kẹ̀, nígbà tí ílọ̀ rẹ̀ bá wọn múlẹ̀ ibùdó.

Ifá divination was performed for the one who would become the *Ìdó* chief, possessor of *ẹ̀jìgbàrà* beads (which are worn by royalty), when he went aiming to join them (others) in establishing a settlement.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀. Lẹ̀hìn tí ó rúbọ̀ tán, ó di àpésìn, ó di Olú Ìdó.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ̀*. After he had done *ẹ̀bọ̀* completely, he became a leader who had a large number of followers, he became the *Ìdó* chief.

Kí'ó sọ Olú Ìdó di ọ̀ba? Èjì Òbàrà, Ifá l'ó sọ Olú Ìdó di ọ̀ba, Èjì Òbàrà o!

What was it that transformed the *Ìdó* chief into a king? *Èjì Òbàrà* (same as *Òbàrà Méjì*), it was *Ifá* that transformed the *Ìdó* chief into a king, *Èjì Òbàrà*!

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will create their own domain of peaceful prosperity.

Òbàrà Ọ̀sá

[\[Back to Òbàrà\]](#)

07.10 Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity) hinders Ọ̀sá (running away from a challenge).

Oṣó rí mi; ó ní ọ̀mọ̀ tani mo ẹ̀? Mo ní: “Ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá nì mo ẹ̀.” Àjẹ̀ rí mi; ó ní ọ̀mọ̀ tani mo ẹ̀? Mo ní: “Ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá nì mo ẹ̀.”

A male psychic attacker saw me; he said whose child am I? I said: “It is a child of *Òbàrà Ọ̀sá* that I am.” A female psychic attacker saw me; she said whose child am I? I said: “It is a child of *Òbàrà Ọ̀sá* that I am.”

Ikú rí mi; ó ní ọ̀mọ̀ tani mo ẹ̀? Mo ní: “Ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá nì mo ẹ̀.” Àrùn rí mi; ó ní ọ̀mọ̀ tani mo ẹ̀? Mo ní: “Ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá nì mo ẹ̀.” Èṣù rí mi; ó ní ọ̀mọ̀ tani mo ẹ̀? Mo ní: “Ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá nì mo ẹ̀.”

Death saw me; he said whose child am I? I said: “It is a child of *Òbàrà Ọ̀sá* that I am.” Illness saw me; he said whose child am I? I said: “It is a child of *Òbàrà Ọ̀sá* that I am.” *Èṣù* (the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests) saw me; he said whose child am I? I said: “It is a child of *Òbàrà Ọ̀sá* that I am.”

Ọ̀fọ̀: Ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá nì mo ẹ̀. Ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá kì ísá. Ikú kì ípa ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá. Àrùn kì ípa ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá. Ọ̀mọ̀ Òbàrà Ọ̀sá kì íté.

Incantation: It is a child of *Òbàrà Òsá* that I am. A child of *Òbàrà Òsá* never runs away. Death never overwhelms a child of *Òbàrà Òsá*. Illness never overwhelms a child of *Òbàrà Òsá*. A child of *Òbàrà Òsá* never falls into disgrace.

Àkóse Ifá: Gún ewé jàsókè àti ọ̀ṣẹ̀ pọ̀. Kó ọ̀ṣẹ̀ yìí sínú igbá àdému dárádára kan. Pè ọ̀fọ̀ náà s'ìyèròsùn tí o ti tẹ̀ lí Òbàrà Òsá. Kó ìyè yìí sínú igbá ọ̀ṣẹ̀. Gbé igbá ọ̀ṣẹ̀ sínú àpò aṣọ funfun; fí kọ̀ sókè bí o bá fẹ̀. Bù ọ̀ṣẹ̀ náà fí wẹ̀.

Ifá medicine: Pound *jàsókè* leaves (*Ehretia cymosa*: used to dispel negative energy and to attract positive energy) and soap to be together. Take this soap into a good calabash with a cover. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to *ìyèròsùn* that you have imprinted with *Òbàrà Òsá*. Take this powder into the calabash of soap. Place the calabash of soap into a white cloth bag (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness); make it hang from above if you happen to want to. Portion out the aforementioned soap to use to cleanse yourself.

Extra: Stand your ground against ruinous influences.

Òbàrà Òtúrá

[\[Back to Òbàrà\]](#)

07.13 *Òbàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity) helps *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

A-pa-pa-t'oko, a-tu wọn-n'ílẹ-tu-wọn-l'óko, l'ó difá fún Onílẹ-adiyẹ àti àwọn ọmọ rẹ.

It was 'One who kills and kills those of the farm', 'one who plucks them in town and plucks them in the countryside', who performed *Ifá* divination for 'Chicken head-of-household' and her children.

A ní: “Ọ̀tá tí ó lágbára jù yín, ó ńbọwá bá yín. Bí ẹ̀ bá sá kúrò n'ílẹ̀ lọ s'óko, ọ̀tá ọ̀ò tún wá bá yín l'óko. Sùgbón bí ẹ̀ bá ṣẹbọ, ọ̀wọ̀ ọ̀ò jẹ fún yín.”

It was said: “An opponent who is more powerful than y'all, he is coming to meet y'all. If y'all happen to run away and leave town to go away to the countryside, then the opponent will again come looking for y'all in the countryside. But if y'all happen to do *ẹbọ*, then respect will comply with y'all.”

A ní: “Àwòdì kò lè rí fí ìgbín ẹ̀. Àwòdì wò ìgbín kọ̀rọ̀.”

It was said: “The hawk is not able to see causing the snail to be harmed. The hawk looks at the snail hostilely but being powerless to act.”

Àkóse Ifá: Lọ ewé ọ̀wọ̀ láti sè jẹ gégẹbí ọ̀bẹ̀ pẹ̀lú ìgbín.

Ifá medicine: Grind *ọ̀wọ̀* leaves (*Brillantaisia patula*: used to bring respect to someone) to cook and eat according to a soup together with snails (whose slow movement symbolizes calmness and caution that avert trouble).

Òbàrà Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀

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07.14 *Òbàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity) is helped by *Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀* (practicing *Ifá*).

Òbàrà Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀, a difá fún Ọmọ-Èlẹ̀. A ní kí ọ̀un wá rúbọ̀ kí ohun tí ó wúwo jù má baà lè dé sí ọ̀un, kí ọ̀un baà lè tẹ̀ orí ohun gbogbo. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀.

Òbàrà Ìrètẹ̀, Ifá divination was performed for *Ọmọ-Ẹ̀là* (child of *Ẹ̀là*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ* so that a thing that was too heavy may not be able to reach him, so that he may be able to step on the top of everything. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*.

A ní: “Ohun tí ó wúwo jù kì ídé sí Ẹ̀là. Ẹ̀là l’ó tẹ ara rẹ ní Ifá. Ọ̀un ni yóò tẹ wọn níbigbogbo.”
It was said: “A thing that is too heavy never reaches *Ẹ̀là*. It is *Ẹ̀là* who initiated himself into *Ifá*. It is he who will initiate them (others) everywhere.”

Extra: By practicing *Ifá*, you will steer every matter to a fitting end.

Òbàrà Ọ̀sé

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07.15 *Òbàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity) is helped by *Ọ̀sé* (overcoming through joyful optimism).

Wọn ní ọmọ tani mo ẹ? Mo ní: “Ọmọ Ọ̀bàrà Ọ̀sé ni mo ẹ.” Wọn bì mi. Wọn gbà mi lójú. Wọn kàn mi n’íkùn.

They (others) said whose child am I? I said: “It is a child of *Ọ̀bàrà Ọ̀sé* that I am.” They shoved me. They slapped me in the face. They punched me in the belly.

Ọfọ: Ọmọ Ọ̀bàrà Ọ̀sé ni mo ẹ. Ìyà kì ijẹ ọmọ Ọ̀bàrà Ọ̀sé. Ọ̀tá kótá tí ó bá pè mi s’ìbì, èmi kò níí sàì sẹgun wọn.

Incantation: It is a child of *Ọ̀bàrà Ọ̀sé* that I am. Suffering never consumes a child of *Ọ̀bàrà Ọ̀sé*. Whichever opponents happen to summon me to bad things, I will not fail to overcome them.

Àkóse Ifá: Lọ ewé àrèrè àti ewé ejá tí wọn wọ sílẹ. Pẹ ọfọ nàà s’ẹ̀tù yìí tí o ti tẹ lí Ọ̀bàrà Ọ̀sé. Dà ẹ̀tù nàà s’ójú ìgbín kan. Fì aṣọ dúdú wé ìgbín nàà. Fì ọ̀wú dúdú dì í danindanin. Dí ojú àti jù ú nù sínú ìgbó.

Ifá medicine: Grind *àrèrè* leaves (*Triplochiton scleroxylon*: used to dispel negative energy) and *ejá* leaves (*Mallotus oppositifolius*: used to dispel negative energy) that fell to the ground. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to this powder that you have imprinted with *Ọ̀bàrà Ọ̀sé*. Pour the aforementioned powder on the face of a snail (whose slow movement symbolizes calmness and caution that avert trouble). Use a piece of black cloth to wrap around the aforementioned snail. Use black thread to bind it tightly. Close your eyes and throw it away into the woods.

Extra: Move yourself from being a victim of trauma to being its victor.

Òbàrà Ọ̀fún

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07.16 *Òbàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity) is helped by *Ọ̀fún* (acting with rectitude).

Ahéré oko l’abidí bẹ̀ẹ̀rẹ̀-bẹ̀ẹ̀rẹ̀. Àgbàlágba ejò ni ídòbálẹ̀ ara rẹ wọ ilẹ.

It is the farmhouse that is the possessor of a base of thatch. [Note: Here is a case of roofing material ‘humbling itself’ by being at the house’s base]. It is the elder snake that is prostrating its body to crawl on the ground.

A dífá fún babaláwo méta. A bù fún olùmòràn méfà n'íjọ tí wọn nǵà ìjà àgbà lí Òtu-Ifẹ. A ní: “Ifá l’àgbà, ẹ̀gbón ìmòràn l’a kọ́kọ́ ndá kí a tó dáfá.”

Ifá divination was performed for three *Ifá* priests. It (this divination) was shared with six wise men on the day when they were fighting a fight for seniority at *Ilé-Ifẹ*. It was said: “It is *Ifá* that is the elder, but it is careful consideration that we first cast before we reach the point of performing *Ifá* divination.”

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó mò pé Ifá kì íní ohun tí ó lòdì sí làákàyè. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ẹ̀ ibọ fún Èlà, afi inú ẹ̀ ọgbón.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to know that *Ifá* never says a thing that is contrary to good sense. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the one who uses (his) insides to practice wisdom.

Extra: *Ifá* never says anything that is contrary to good sense.

A08 Òkànràn as the right leg

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Òkànràn Ogbè

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08.01 Òkànràn (touching trouble) is hindered by *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

A kì íṣe ọmọ babaláwo kí a bínú. A kì íṣe ọmọ oníṣègùn kí a ṣàì gbọràn. A kì íṣe ọmọ baálẹ́ kí a bà ilú jé.

We will never be the children of an *Ifá* priest and then be angry. We will never be the children of an herb doctor and then fail to be obedient. We will never be the children of a community chief and then spoil the community.

A dífá fún Adékànmíbí, tí íṣe ọmọ Òkànràn-so-idè.

Ifá divination was performed for *Adékànmíbí* (a personal name meaning ‘it is my turn to birth a crown’, that is, it is my turn to become enthroned as the king of my life), who was a child of ‘Òkànràn ties an *òrìṣà* necklace’ (that is, Òkànràn gets initiated to an *òrìṣà*, a divine ministerial agent).

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ṣe ìbọ fún Èlà, afi inú ṣe ọgbọn.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ìbọ* for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the one who uses (his) insides to practice wisdom.

Mo gbọ pé awo ñsodè. Mo bá wọn so o!

I heard that priests were tying *òrìṣà* necklaces. I joined them in tying!

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 16:17] The high way of upright ones is to turn themselves aside from what is bad; one who watches over his spirit is one who safeguards his conduct.

Òkànràn Òyèkú

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08.02 Òkànràn (touching trouble) is hindered by *Òyèkú* (averting ruin).

‘Tẹ ẹ kiti’ l’awo ọmọdé. ‘Tẹ ẹ kàtà’ l’awo àgbàlágba. Ó kù ìka kan kí ó di Èjì Òyẹ.

It is ‘Imprint it hastily’ who is the young priest. It is ‘Imprint it patiently’ who is the elder priest. There remains one imprint before it becomes *Èjì Òyẹ* (same as *Òyèkú Méjì*).

A dífá bọrọkinní ayé. A bù fún bọrọkinní ọrun. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ kí bọrọkinní ayé má baà tẹ nítorí àṣìṣe. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ. Wọn sì ṣe ìbọ fún Ẹgbé.

Ifá divination was performed for respectable persons of earth. It (this divination) was shared with respectable persons of heaven. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that respectable persons of earth may not fall into disgrace because of mistakes (that is, wrong actions, beliefs, or judgments). They heard; they did *ẹbọ*. They moreover did *ibọ* for *Egbé* (comrades of heaven).

Egbé, ẹ gbà mi o! Bòròkìnní ọrun ọò gbẹjà bọròkìnní ayé. Bọròkìnní ọrun kò ní jékí bọròkìnní ayé ọò tẹ. Èyàn rere kì ítẹ bọrò.

Egbé, rescue me! Respectable persons of heaven will fight on behalf of respectable persons of earth. Respectable persons of heaven will not allow that respectable persons of earth would fall into disgrace. Good human beings never fall into disgrace easily.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 16:17] The high way of upright ones is to turn themselves aside from what is bad; one who watches over his spirit is one who safeguards his conduct.

Òkànràn Òdí

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08.04 Òkànràn (giving something good its turn) is helped by Òdí (having a sound foundation).

Message: [*Dilogún* 1-7] He who does not follow his (destined) course does not meet his blessings.

Òkànràn Ìrosùn

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08.05 Òkànràn (touching trouble) is hindered by Ìrosùn (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Ìmọ̀mọ̀şẹ ibi kò sunwọ̀n. Èni tí ışẹ ibi, bí ó bá bẹ̀bẹ̀ ọ̀ràn, ọ̀ràn ọ̀ò tán. Gbogbo ayé ni iforíjì àìmọ̀. Ìmọ̀mọ̀şẹ ibi kò sunwọ̀n.

Knowingly doing bad things is not good. The person who is doing bad things, if he happens to beg for forgiving the trouble, then the trouble will come to an end. It is the whole world who forgives ignorance. Knowingly doing bad things is not good.

A dífá fún ‘Ó şẹ ọ̀ràn şẹ akin’. Gbogbo wọ̀n ni ifi ẹ̀jọ̀ rẹ̀ sùn. Bí ó bá bẹ̀bẹ̀ ọ̀ràn, wọ̀n ọ̀ò wí pé ó tán. Nítorínáà, a ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘He makes trouble bravely’. It was all of them (others) who were complaining about his issues. If he happened to beg for forgiving the trouble, then they would say that it has come to an end. Therefore, it was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Àkóşẹ Ifá: Gún ewé ojúsàájú, ewé oríjì, àti ọşẹ pọ̀ fún wíwẹ.

Ifá medicine: Pound *ojúsàájú* leaves (*Petiveria alliacea*: used to help someone to think favorably of another), *oríjì* leaves (*Hannoa undulata*: used to help someone to forgive another’s mistakes), and soap to be together for cleansing yourself.

Extra: **1.** [The Bible, Proverbs 28:13] One who covers up his rebellious acts will not fare well, but one who confesses (them) and forsakes (them) will be shown compassion. **2.** [*Dilogún* 1-4] He who remedies the damage that he has done lessens his fault.

Òkànràn Òwònrín

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08.06 Òkànràn (touching trouble) is hindered by Òwònrín (walking honorably).

‘Jẹkí ó ọ̀kà’ ńgbè ọ̀kà. ‘Jẹkí ó ẹ̀ ibi’ ńgbè aṣe ibi. A dífá fún àwọn àfẹ̀yẹ̀, tí íwí pé Èlà ńkílò ọ̀ràn jù. T’ínú wọn ní wọn ńṣe. Wọn ńṣe ikà. Wọn ńṣe ibi. Ohun ayé ńdára fún wọn. A lọ wí fún Èlà.

‘Let him do evil’ benefits the evildoer. ‘Let him do bad things’ benefits the doer of bad things. *Ifá* divination was performed for those of disobedience, who were saying that Èlà (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) was warning against trouble too much. It was what was in their minds that they were doing. They were doing evil. They were doing bad things. Things of the world were looking good for them. We (others) went reporting to Èlà.

Èlà ní: “Bí ó bá pé tí, ẹ̀lẹ́san oò maa bọwá àyíkà. Yóò túmọ̀ l’ẹ̀rù kalẹ̀. Yóò ẹ̀ jẹ́jẹ́ ẹ̀ṣe. Nígbàtí ó bá dé, gbogbo wọn oò sá.”

Èlà said: “If it happens to take a long time on-and-on, then the dispenser of rewards will be coming around. He will solve burdens to the last one. He will do quietly his doing. When he happens to arrive, all of them (the wrongdoers) will run away.”

A ní kí ẹ̀ni wá rúbọ́ kí ‘Jẹkí ó ọ̀kà’ àti ‘Jẹkí ó ẹ̀ ibi’ má baà rí àyè bọ́sì ikùn ẹ̀ni, kí àwọn ẹ̀gbé àti ọ̀gbà má baà fì ẹ̀ni rẹ́rín nígbẹ̀yìn.

It was said that we ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ* so that ‘Let him do evil’ and ‘Let him do bad things’ may not see the opportunity to enter our insides, so that companions and peers may not ridicule us in the end.

Extra: Do not allow negative influences to gain a foothold.

Òkànràn Òbàrà

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08.07 Òkànràn (giving something good its turn) helps Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity).

Agogo-şékété, awo ilé Ọ̀lọ̀bà, l’ó dífá fún Ọ̀lọ̀bà nígbàtí ẹ̀ṣe ohun gbogbo tí ọ̀kan kò yànjú.

It was *Agogo-şékété* (a bell that is beaten when greeting Èlà, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the priest of the house of the king of Ọ̀bà town, who performed *Ifá* divination for the Ọ̀bà king when he was doing everything for which (each) one did not find an answer.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí nkan ogún àwọn baba nlá rẹ̀ má baà run. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́. Lẹ́hìn tí ó rúbọ́ tán, nkan rẹ̀ bẹ̀rẹ̀sì gún. Ayé yẹ ẹ̀.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ* so that something inherited from his ancestors may not pass away. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*. After he had done *ẹ̀bọ* completely, his affair began to be in good order. Life was right for him.

È má jẹ́kí wọn run. Egúngún ilé, ẹ̀ má jẹ́kí wọn run. Òrìṣà ilé, ẹ̀ má jẹ́kí wọn run. Gbogbo ohun ogún àwọn baba nlá tí íbẹ̀ n’ílẹ̀, ẹ̀ má jẹ́kí wọn run.

Do not allow that they pass away. *Egúngún* (honorable ancestors) of the house, do not allow that they pass away. *Òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents) of the house, do not allow that they pass away. All ancestrally inherited things that are in the house, do not allow that they pass away.

Extra: Be worthy of assistance from ancestral guardians by valuing and preserving the good things that they have brought forth.

Òkànràn Méjì

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08.08 Òkànràn (giving something good its turn; touching trouble) is doubled.

Òkànràn kan níhín, Òkànràn kan lóhún – Òkànràn di méjì di ire.

One Òkànràn here, one Òkànràn over there – Òkànràn becomes two to become good things.

A dífá fún Ọmú nígbàtí wọn tí lọ s'áyà ọkùnrin. Ọkùnrin gùn igi; ọkùnrin lọ jagun. Ọmú kò n'ísìmi. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Breasts when they had gone to the chest of men. Men climbed trees; men went fighting wars. Breasts did not have tranquility. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. They heard; they did *ẹbọ*.

Lẹhìn tí Ọmú rúbọ tán, wọn lọ s'áyà obìnrin. Obìnrin kò gùn igi; obìnrin kò lọ jagun. Ọmú n'ísìmi. Nígbèhìn, Ọmú rí ẹwà àtí ọwọ.

After Breasts had done *ẹbọ* completely, they went to the chest of women. Women did not climb trees; women did not go fighting wars. Breasts had tranquility. Ultimately, Breasts experienced beauty and respect.

Extra: Get to a situation that supports the proper development of your potential.

Òkànràn Ògúndá

[\[Back to Òkànràn\]](#)

08.09 Òkànràn (giving something good its turn) is helped by Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action).

Eni tí ọwọ́ nýá fún ire l'Ògún ígbè n'íjọ ìjà. Èyànràn tí kò lè jà, tí kò lè sọrọ́, kò ní lè gbé nínú ayé pẹ. Ìjà nṣe ọlá; ìjà nṣe iyì.

It is the person whose hands are quick for good things whom Ògún (the *òrìṣà* of iron and war) supports on the day of the fight. The person who is not able to fight, who is not able to speak up, he will not be able to live in the world for long. Fighting makes dignity; fighting makes respect.

A dífá fún Ògúngbèmi. A ní bí kò tilẹ́ nù fínràn nígbàkígba tí ìjà bá dé sí i, kí ó má maa sá o! Alágbára l'ó l'áyé. Kò sí eni tí ó jẹ́ buyì fún ọlẹ́. Akin l'ó l'áyé. Wọn kì ibù ọlá fún ojo.

Ifá divination was performed for Ògúngbèmi (a personal name meaning 'Ògún benefits me'). It was said that if he would not even take part in a dispute whenever the fight happened to reach him, then he ought not to be running away! It is the powerful person who possesses the world. There is no person who is willing to portion out respect to the lazy person. It is the brave person who possesses the world. They (others) never portion out honor to the coward.

A ní kí Ògúngbèmi wá rúbọ́ kí agbára inú má baà rà, kí ara baà lè le.

It was said that Ògúngbèmi ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that (his) inner strength may not rot, so that (his) body may be able to be strong.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 16:8] I have gained advantage by putting *Ha'el* (God) in front of me always; because (he is) at my right hand, I cannot be unnerved.

Òkànràn Òsá

[\[Back to Òkànràn\]](#)

08.10a Òkànràn (giving something good its turn) is helped by Òsá (taking well-timed action).

Àwọn ọkọ, bí wọn ti gbójú tó, wọn kò lè fí ara wọn roko. Àwọn èyàn ni ísẹ elégbè lẹyìn wọn. Àwọn àdà, bí wọn ti mú tó, wọn kò lè fí ara wọn sán igbó. Àwọn èyàn ni ísẹ elégbè lẹyìn wọn. A mú iṣu wá ilé odó; kò lè tìkárarẹ gún un n'íyán. Àwọn èyàn ni ísẹ elégbè lẹyìn wọn.

Hoes, as sufficiently brave as they already are, they are not able to use themselves to till a farm plot. It is human beings who are the supporters behind them. Machetes, as sufficiently razor-sharp as they already are, they are not able to use themselves to cut down the forest. It is human beings who are the supporters behind them. A yam is brought to the abode of the mortar; it is not able by itself to pound itself into pounded yam. It is human beings who are the supporters behind them.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-èyàn. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for human beings. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. They heard; they did *ẹbọ*.

Ẹjẹ, tani nṣe elégbè lẹyìn èyàn, àyàfí Ẹlédàá, àyàfí èyàn?

Therefore, who are the supporters behind human beings, apart from *Ẹlédàá* (Creator God), apart from human beings?

Àkóse Ifá: Sè ewé ọwọ àtí igbín méréndínlógún láti jẹ ní kùtùkùtù kí o tó fòhùn sí ẹnì.

Ifá medicine: Cook ọwọ leaves (*Brillantaisia patula*: used to bring respect to someone) and 16 snails (whose slow movement symbolizes calmness and caution that avert trouble) to eat in the early morning before you reach the point of talking to someone.

Extra: Work at playing a meaningful role in helping someone or something to realize its potential.

08.10b Òkànràn (touching trouble) is helped or hindered by Òsá (running away from a challenge).

‘Má já, má sá’ l’àìmọ́ akin. Akin tí ó mò jà, tí kò mò sá, yóò bá akin ibòmíràn lọ.

It is ‘Do not fight or do not flee’ that is the ignorance of the brave person. The brave person who knows how to fight, (but) who does not know how to back off, he will meet another brave person and perish.

A dífá fún Akínṣuyì. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó baà lè maa mò igbàtí yẹra àtí àiyẹra fún ijà, kí ó baà lè maa n’íyì l’ọjọ́ gbogbo. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for *Akínṣuyì* (a personal name meaning ‘bravery produces honor’). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to be knowing when to avoid and when not to avoid fighting, so that he may be able to be having respect every day. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Àkóse Ifá: Gbo ewé ojúsàájú, ọjẹlẹ ewé ọmọ, àti imọ sínú omi fún wíwẹ. Maa lò aṣọ ẹtù.

Ifá medicine: Juice *ojúsàájú* leaves (*Petiveria alliacea*: used to help someone to think favorably of another), tender young *ọmọ* leaves (*Cordia millenii*: used to dispel negative energy), and palm fronds into water for cleansing yourself. Get to wearing *ẹtù* cloth.

Extra: [a saying from Sūnzī] He will win who knows when to fight and when not to fight.

Òkànràn Ìká

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08.11 *Òkànràn* (touching trouble) is helped by *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck).

Kò sí ẹnì tí ilẹ̀ rẹ̀ kò lè dì oko. Kò sí ẹnì tí oko rẹ̀ kò lè dì ìgbòrò. Òtító inú kò maa jẹ́kí tẹ̀mì dì oko.

There is not a person whose town is not able to become countryside. There is not a person whose countryside is not able to become bush. [Note: The preceding statements tell us that everything can be taken over by unwholesome influences if not given proper attention]. Truthfulness in me is not allowing that mine become countryside.

A dífá fún Àpáta. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó má baà kú láíláí fún koríko hù. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for Rock. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may not die ever for grass to sprout. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Extra: Things go to ruin whenever they are not given proper attention.

Òkànràn Òtúrúpòn

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08.12 *Òkànràn* (giving something good its turn) helps *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive).

Ifá kíkọ̀ nì ímú ẹnì mò Ifá. Ọ̀nà sísì nì ímú ẹnì mò ọ̀nà. Ọ̀nà tí a kò rìn rí n'íṣe ẹnì ẹ̀báṣìbo.

It is learning *Ifá* that causes a person to become acquainted with *Ifá*. It is missing a way that causes a person to become acquainted with the roads. It is a road that we have not traveled previously that makes us uneasy.

N'íjọ kan, Ọ̀sáyìn m̀bá Ẹ̀là kó ajá kan àti ewúré kan l'ẹ̀bọ. Nígbà tí Ọ̀sáyìn nímú ajá náà kítà-kítà láti pa á, ọ̀bẹ́ tí ó mú lówó bó lù ú l'ẹ̀sẹ. Ọ̀sáyìn sì gbà ogbẹ́ nlá.

One day, *Ọ̀sáyìn* was helping *Ẹ̀là* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) to get a dog and a she-goat for an *ẹbọ*. When *Ọ̀sáyìn* was taking the aforementioned dog with difficulty to kill it, the knife that he took slipped from his grasp and hit him in the leg. *Ọ̀sáyìn* moreover received a large wound.

Ẹ̀là wò ó sà, sùgbọ́n ẹ̀sẹ Ọ̀sáyìn kò dára fún iṣẹ́ lile mó. Ẹ̀là Ẹ̀lànú rẹ. Ó nfún un l'ógún ewé Ifá lórí àrùn kòọ̀kan kí ó baà lè maa fí jẹun. Báyii nì Ọ̀sáyìn di oníṣẹ̀gùn.

Ẹ̀là healed him, but the leg of *Ọ̀sáyìn* was not good for hard tasks anymore. *Ẹ̀là* pitied him. He (*Ẹ̀là*) gave him (*Ọ̀sáyìn*) twenty *Ifá* leaves governing each illness so that he may be able to be using them to make a living. It is like this that *Ọ̀sáyìn* became an herb doctor.

Extra: Faring well depends on taking an unexpected road.

Òkànràn Òṣé

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08.15a Òkànràn (touching trouble) is hindered by Òṣé (overcoming trouble).

Ìṣe igún ni kò di alé. Ìyà àkàlà ni kò di òwúrò. Kíkún odò ni kò l'ópin.

It is the poverty of the vulture (which is a carrion-eating scavenger) that does not last until night. It is the suffering of the hornbill (which is a carrion-eating scavenger) that does not last until morning. It is the fullness of the stream that does not have an end.

A dífá fún Òkànràn nígbà tí írú igbá ṣe kiri. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Òkànràn when he was carrying the calabash of deficient circumstances from place to place. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ọfọ: Ìṣe mi tán o; ọrọ l'ó kù! Mo bọ sínú odò; mo wẹ ṣe nù.

Incantation: My deficient circumstances have come to an end; it is ample circumstances that remain! I came into the stream; I washed deficient circumstances away.

Àkóse Ifá: Pè ọfọ náà s'éejú tí o ti tẹ lí Òkànràn Òṣé. Pò eérú yìi pèlú ọṣé. Bọ sínú odò látí fí ọṣé yìi wẹ.

Ifá medicine: Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to ashes that you have imprinted with Òkànràn Òṣé. Mix these ashes together with soap. Come into a stream in order to use this soap to cleanse yourself.

08.15b Òkànràn (touching trouble) is hindered by Òṣé (overcoming trouble).

Òkànràn dà ṣe nù. Awo rere ni ṣe o!

Òkànràn gets rid of deficient circumstances. It is a good priest that he is!

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlẹ̀ nígbà tí àwọn ará rẹ maa rò ó pin. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ṣe ìbọ fún Èlẹ̀, alátúnṣe ayé, asọ-òrọ̀-di-ayọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlẹ̀ (child of Èlẹ̀, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) when members of his community were intending to write him off. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ìbọ* for Èlẹ̀, the master of improving one's life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy.

Ọfọ: Arò-ẹni-pin kò mò ọla o! Bí a kò kú, ṣe kò tán. Arò-ẹni-pin kò mò ọla o!

Incantation: 'One who writes a person off' does not know tomorrow! If we have not died, then taking action has not come to an end. 'One who writes a person off' does not know tomorrow!

Àkóse Ifá: Pè ọfọ náà s'éejú tí o ti tẹ lí Òkànràn Òṣé. Pò eérú yìi pèlú ọṣé. Bọ sínú odò látí fí ọṣé yìi wẹ.

Ifá medicine: Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to ashes that you have imprinted with Òkànràn Òṣé. Mix these ashes together with soap. Come into a stream in order to use this soap to cleanse yourself.

Extra: Do not give up on yourself or allow others to write you off.

Òkànràn Òfún

[\[Back to Òkànràn\]](#)

08.16 Òkànràn (giving something good its turn) hinders Òfún (efforts of limited success).

Bí orí-búburú bá pẹ́ títí lórí olúwarè, orí-búburú óò di orí-ire.

If bad luck happens to last a long time on-and-on on the head of the person in question, then bad luck will become good luck.

A dífá fún Òkànràn. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Báyìí ni yóò yá fún ire tí íbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Òkànràn. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. It was in this manner that he would be ready for the blessings that were approaching.

Extra: Time now favors one to go from bad luck to good luck.

A09 Ògúndá as the right leg

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[Ògúndá Ogbè](#)

[Ògúndá Ìrosùn](#)

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Ògúndá Ogbè

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09.01a *Ògúndá* (having the courage to take right action) helps *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Èké ni ípa eléké. Òdàlè ni ípa òdàlè. Òtító-inú l'àjẹkù jù iró ló.

It is deception that is killing the deceiver. It is betrayal that is killing the betrayer. It is truthfulness that is what remains more than falsehood.

Extra: [an old saying] Honesty is the best policy (that is, being truthful is always better than being deceitful).

09.01b *Ògúndá* (having the courage to take right action) helps *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Odò àbàtà sẹ̀gìsẹ̀gì kò bà akàn l'ẹ̀rù. Akàn gbé inú òkun jùgbàdà-jùgbudu.

A muddy swamp does not frighten a crab. The crab inhabits the belly of the ocean with hearty enjoyment.

A dífá fún Ọ̀nì àwààkà. Wọn nífẹ́ lé e kúrò n'ílẹ̀ bàbá rẹ̀. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀. Ó sì ẹ̀ ẹ̀bọ̀ fún baba nlá rẹ̀.

Ifá divination was performed for mighty Crocodile. They (others) were wanting to drive him away from the home of his fathers. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ̀*. He moreover did *ibọ̀* for his ancestors.

Ọ̀nì àwààkà, iwọ l'ó l'ódò, iwọ l'ó n'íbu. Tani yóò gbà odò lówó Ọ̀nì? Tani yóò gbà ilẹ̀ bàbá ọmọ lówó ọmọ? Kò sí ẹnì tí yóò gbà odò lówó Ọ̀nì.

Mighty Crocodile, it is you who possesses the river, it is you who possesses the deepest waters. Who will take the river from the hands of Crocodile? Who will take the home of a child's father from the hands of the child? There is no one who will take the river from the hands of Crocodile.

Extra: **1.** Have the courage to be where you belong. **2.** There is something of ancestral importance to which you ought to lay claim.

Ògúndá Òyèkú

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09.02 Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action) helps Òyèkú (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities).

Message: [*Dilogún* 3-2] To live on illusions, only to die of disappointments.

Ògúndá Ìwòrì

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09.03 Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action) is helped by Ìwòrì (seeing things clearly).

Wèrè òyò ọbẹ. Wèrè òyò èlè. Wèrè òsọ ọrọ tí kò sunwọ̀n s'etí ayé. Wèrè nlé wọ̀n kiri. A kò fẹ̀ wèrè.

The madman is taking out a knife. The madman is taking out a machete. The madman is saying words that are not good to the ears of the world. The madman is chasing them (others) from place to place. We do not want the madman.

Ọmọ-Ògún di wèrè. Kíl'a lè ẹ̀ fún Ọmọ-Ògún? Ẹ̀ jẹ́kí a rẹ̀ ilé Ọmọ-Èlà bèèrè. A dé ilé Ọmọ-Èlà. Ó gbé Ifá silẹ̀; ó dífá. Ó rí Ògúndá Ìwòrì.

Ọmọ-Ògún (child of Ògún, the òrìṣà of iron and war) became a madman. What is it that we are able to do for Ọmọ-Ògún? Allow that we go to the house of Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) to investigate. We reached the house of Ọmọ-Èlà. He brought Ifá down; he performed Ifá divination. He saw Ògúndá Ìwòrì.

Ọmọ-Èlà ní: “Ògúndá Ìwòrì o! Èmimi iwọ̀ ni. Èmimi iwọ̀ kì íjá èso ìrókò. Èmimi iwọ̀ mà kún inú ayé. Kí a borí èmimi iwọ̀. Kí a lágbára bí Ògún. Kí a gbọ̀n bí Ifá. Ẹ̀ mú wèrè wá. Wèrè ọ̀ò sà̀n o!”

Ọmọ-Èlà said: “Ògúndá Ìwòrì! There are poisonous aura vibrations (that is, energy emanations belonging to the auras that radiate from persons and things). Poisonous aura vibrations never pluck the fruit of the ìrókò tree (which is sacred and inhabited by a powerful spirit). Poisonous aura vibrations indeed fill the insides of the world. Let us prevail over poisonous aura vibrations. Let us be powerful like Ògún. Let us be wise like Ifá. Bring the madman. The madman will get well!”

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 29:18] With no spiritual insight, people are let loose (to disregard restraints of good conduct), but one who conforms to divine instruction, how blessed is he!

Ògúndá Ìrosùn

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09.05 Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action) helps Ìrosùn (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Ọ̀tí nì ípa wọ̀n lókèèrè ìhín. Ẹ̀mu nì ípa wọ̀n lókèèrè ọ̀hún.

It is alcoholic beverage that is overwhelming them way over here. It is palm wine that is overwhelming them way over here. [Note: Intoxicants impair one's self-control].

A dífá fún Ọlá-kò-mọ nígbà tí íbẹ láàárín ọ́tá. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ibọ fún Èlà àti Ọ̀gún.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘Dignity is not limited’ when he was in the midst of opponents. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for Èlà (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) and Ọ̀gún (the *òrìṣà* of iron and war).

Wọn ẹ̀bí ọ́lá mi tán. Mo ní ọ́lá mi kù. Nínú àpò òmìnìjẹkùn l’ọ́lá mi wà o!

They (others) assumed that my dignity had come to an end. I said that my dignity remains. It is inside the *Ifá* priest’s sacred utility bag (that is, in the domain of *Ifá*, an expert system of spiritual cultivation) where my dignity is!

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 103:6] How blessed are those who conform to justice (and how blessed is) one who practices righteousness at all times!

Ọ̀gúndá Ọ̀wónrín

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09.06 Ọ̀gúndá (clearing a way) is helped by Ọ̀wónrín (taking measured action).

Òkun kún nọ̀ réré. Ọ̀sà kún lẹ̀gbẹ̀-ẹ̀gbẹ̀. Ọ́l’Ọ̀wá nńẹ̀ Ọ̀wá. Al’Àsàn nńẹ̀ Àsàn.

The ocean is full and stretches afar. The lagoon is full at high tide. The person having Ọ̀wá town (as a destination) is going to Ọ̀wá town. The person having Àsàn town (as a destination) is going to Àsàn town.

A dífá fún àwọn ará Ifẹ̀ nígbà tí nkan wọn kò l’ọ́jútùú, nígbà tí wọn kò dì ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe mú.

Ifá divination was performed for the inhabitants of Ilẹ̀-Ifẹ̀ (a Yorùbá town that symbolizes earthly life) when their affair did not have a solution, when they did not take hold of ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe (a system of spiritual cultivation that is centered on one’s intrinsic divinity and ancestral guardians).

A ní kí wọn wá ẹ̀ ibọ fún Orò, tí ị̀ṣe baba nlá wọn. Kí wọn wá ẹ̀ ibọ fún bàbá tí ó bí wọn. Kí wọn sì wá ẹ̀ ibọ fún iyá tí ó bí wọn. Kí wọn wá ẹ̀ ibọ fún Orí Èlédàà. Báyyì nì wọn yóò dì ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe mú. Wọn gbọ; wọn ẹ̀ ibọ.

It was said that they ought to come doing *ibọ* for Orò (a revered Yorùbá ancestor), who was their ancestor. They ought to come doing *ibọ* for the fathers who begot them. They ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for the mothers who birthed them. They ought to come doing *ibọ* for Orí Èlédàà (Man’s godself). It was in this manner that they would take hold of ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe. They heard; they did *ibọ*.

Lẹ̀hìn tí wọn ẹ̀ ibọ tán, ire gbogbo tọ̀ wọn lówọ. Àwọn ará Ifẹ̀ nńọ; wọn nńọ. Wọn nńọrin: “Bàbá ẹ̀ni n’ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe ẹ̀ni. Iyá ẹ̀ni n’ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe ẹ̀ni. Ikin ẹ̀ni n’ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe ẹ̀ni. Orí ẹ̀ni n’ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe ẹ̀ni.”

After they had done *ibọ* completely, every good thing touched them in (their) hands. The inhabitants of Ilẹ̀-Ifẹ̀ were dancing; they were rejoicing. They sang: “It is one’s father who is one’s ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe. It is one’s mother who is one’s ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe. It is one’s *ikin* (sacred palm kernels that are used to perform *Ifá* divination) that are one’s ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe. It is one’s Orí who is one’s ị̀ṣẹ̀ṣe.”

Extra: [a Kòngo saying] *Simba simbi* (Hold up that which holds you up).

Ògúndá Méjì

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09.09 Ògúndá (clearing a way; having the courage to take right action) is doubled.

Oore kì ígbé; ikà kì írè dànù. Oore l'ó pé; ikà kò sunwòn.

Kindliness never perishes; evil never tires to be discarded. It is kindliness that amounts to something beneficial; evil is not good.

A dífá fún Àgànná, tí yóò jòba Òkò lẹyìn ikú Olókò.

Ifá divination was performed for *Àgànná*, who would be enthroned as the king of *Òkò* after the death of the king of *Òkò* town.

Nígbàtí Àgànná dé Òkò, ó dáko l'ójú ọ̀nà. Bí ẹnìkan bá kojá, Àgànná fún un ní àgbàdo tàbí nkan. Ìwọ̀n kan tí Àgànná bá rí n'ítà, ó fí tọ̀rẹ̀. Bí ẹnìkan ẹ̀ àròyẹ̀ owó, Àgànná fún un. Àgànná ńsẹ̀ bẹ̀ẹ̀ títí. Nígbàtí Olókò kú, ará ọ̀de ní kí Àgànná jòba.

When *Àgànná* arrived at *Òkò*, he made a farm by the side of the road. If someone happened to pass by, *Àgànná* gave him maize or something. A particular portion that *Àgànná* happened to see from selling, he used it to give as gifts. If someone made a complaint about money, *Àgànná* gave to him. *Àgànná* was doing this on-and-on. When the *Òkò* king died, the townspeople said that *Àgànná* ought to be enthroned.

Kí'ó fí Àgànná jẹ̀ Olókò? Oore l'ó fí Àgànná jẹ̀ Olókò, oore ni.

What was it that caused *Àgànná* to be enthroned as the king of *Òkò*? It was kindliness that caused *Àgànná* to be enthroned as the king of *Òkò*, kindliness it was.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó má dẹkun iṣoore. Sùgbọ̀n kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought not to cease doing kindly acts. But the person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ*.

Extra: One's sincere efforts will attract the support of those who can help one to rise to prominence.

Ògúndá Ìkà

[\[Back to Ògúndá\]](#)

09.11 Ògúndá (clearing a way) helps *Ìkà* (reaping a reward).

Ẹ̀tì pìrì sí kírì. Sí kírì ẹ̀tì pìrì.

Difficulty immediately moved on and roamed about. Moved on and roamed about did difficulty immediately do.

A dífá fún Ọ̀mọ-Ògún, tí iṣòwò, tí àkà rẹ̀ kò jẹ́kí ó rí èrè jẹ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ẹ̀bọ fún Ọ̀gún àti Ẹ̀là.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọ̀mọ-Ògún* (child of *Ògún*, the *òrìṣà* of iron and war), who was taking part in business, whom his harvest storehouse did not allow that he see a gain to enjoy (that is, it showed no evidence that he had made any progress). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Ògún* and *Ẹ̀là* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom).

Ẹ̀tì pìrì sí kiri. Ọ̀mọ-Ọ̀gún ká àkà, ajé dé. Ẹ̀tì pìrì sí kiri. Ọ̀mọ-Ọ̀gún ká àkà, aya dé.

Difficulty immediately moved on and roamed about. *Ọ̀mọ-Ọ̀gún* dominated the harvest storehouse, and money arrived. Difficulty immediately moved on and roamed about. *Ọ̀mọ-Ọ̀gún* dominated the harvest storehouse, and spouses arrived.

Ẹ̀tì pìrì sí kiri. Ọ̀mọ-Ọ̀gún ká àkà, ọ̀mọ dé. Ẹ̀tì pìrì sí kiri. Ọ̀mọ-Ọ̀gún ká àkà, ire gbogbo dé.

Difficulty immediately moved on and roamed about. *Ọ̀mọ-Ọ̀gún* dominated the harvest storehouse, and children arrived. Difficulty immediately moved on and roamed about. *Ọ̀mọ-Ọ̀gún* dominated the harvest storehouse, and every good thing arrived.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will prevail over the difficulty halting his progress.

Ọ̀gúndá Ìrètẹ̀

[\[Back to Ọ̀gúndá\]](#)

09.14 *Ọ̀gúndá* (clearing a way; having the courage to take right action) is helped by *Ìrètẹ̀* (practicing *Ifá*).

Ọ̀gún l'ó dá àkẹ̀tẹ̀, l'ó sọ̀wọ̀ agada.

It is *Ọ̀gún* (the *òrìṣà* of iron and war) who puts on a straw hat, who waves a scimitar.

A dífá fún Ọ̀mọ-Ẹ̀là nígbà tí íbẹ̀ láàárín ọ̀tá, nígbà tí ífí ojojúmọ̀ kọ̀mínú. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀. Ó sì ẹ̀ se ibọ̀ fún Ẹ̀là àti Ọ̀gún.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọ̀mọ-Ẹ̀là* (child of *Ẹ̀là*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) when he was in the midst of opponents, when he was using every day to feel troubled. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ̀*. He moreover did *ibọ̀* for *Ẹ̀là* and *Ọ̀gún*.

Kò pé; kò jìnnà. Ẹ̀ wá bá ẹnì ní àrúṣẹ̀gun.

It will not take long; it is not far away. Come join us in stirring up victory.

Ọ̀gúndá Ọ̀ṣẹ̀

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09.15 *Ọ̀gúndá* (having the courage to take right action) helps *Ọ̀ṣẹ̀* (overcoming trouble).

Ọ̀gúndá kò ẹ̀. Ọ̀gúndá kò ro. Èèwọ̀ nì; kí a má jẹ Ọ̀gúndá n'íyà.

Ọ̀gúndá did not offend. *Ọ̀gúndá* did not cause pain. Forbidden behavior it is; let us not inflict *Ọ̀gúndá* with suffering.

A dífá fún Ọ̀lọ̀wọ̀. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ̀ kí ó má bá jìyà láíláí. Ó gbọ̀; ó rúbọ̀.

Ifá divination was performed for 'Possessor of respect.' It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀* so that he may not happen to suffer forever. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ̀*.

Ẹ̀ fí ọ̀wọ̀ mí wọ̀ mí. Ọ̀wọ̀ kókó l'a fí í wọ̀ igi. Ọ̀wọ̀ Ọ̀rìṣànlá l'a fí í wọ̀ àfín. Ẹ̀ fí ọ̀wọ̀ mí wọ̀ mí.

Use the respect due to me to put on me. It is respect for knobs that we use to put on a tree. It is respect for *Ọ̀rìṣànlá* (the *òrìṣà* of moral sense) that we use to put on an albino. Give me due respect.

Ògúndá Òfún

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09.16a Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action) helps Òfún (acting with rectitude).

Ògúndá Òfún, a dífá fún Ọmọ-Òrìṣànlá nígbà tí ọfí ọmí ọjù sògbéré ire.

Ògúndá Òfún, Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Òrìṣànlá (child of Òrìṣànlá, the òrìṣà of moral sense) when he was using teardrops to cry about good things.

Kíní Ọmọ-Òrìṣànlá lè ṣe kí ayé bá yẹ ẹ? A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. A ní yóò gbà iyì. A ní kò níí tẹ láíláí. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ṣe ìbọ fún Òrìṣànlá, bàntà-banta nínú àlà.

What was it that Ọmọ-Òrìṣànlá was able to do so that life may happen to be right for him? It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. It was said that he would receive honor. It was said that he would not fall into disgrace ever. He heard; he did ẹbọ. He moreover did ìbọ for Òrìṣànlá, the immense one in white clothing (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness).

Òrìṣànlá, lékèlèkè, sà àmì sí mí. Òrìṣànlá, làbàlàbà, sà àmì sí mí.

Òrìṣànlá, superior one, put (your) mark on me. Òrìṣànlá, grand one, put (your) mark on me.

Ifá ní ẹnìkàn wà tí kí ó dì Òrìṣànlá mú. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ṣe ìbọ fún Òrìṣànlá. Báyí n'ire ọò tọ ọ lówọ.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to take hold of Òrìṣànlá. The person in question ought to come doing ẹbọ. He ought moreover to come doing ìbọ for Òrìṣànlá. It is in this manner that good things will touch him in (his) hands.

Extra: Improving your life depends on following the manner of Òrìṣànlá.

09.16b Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action) hinders Òfún (efforts of limited success).

Ẹkésẹkẹ ṣe èké – èké ké e. Ẹkàṣìkà ṣe ìkà – ìkà kà á. Ara kì írọ èké. Ọkàn ọ̀ṣìkà kò balẹ̀ bọrọ. Aṣeni n'ṣe ara rẹ l'ọ̀ṣẹ.

The deceiver practices deception – deception cuts him to pieces. The evildoer practices evil – evil numbers his days. The body never puts the deceiver at ease. The heart of the evildoer does not feel secure easily. The underminer is doing himself harm.

A dífá fún ẹkésẹkẹ, ẹkàṣìkà, àti aṣeni n'íjọ tí wọn wá dì ọmọ ìkófá, n'íjọ tí Ifá ọò gbà iwà búburú lówọ wọn. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for the deceiver, the evildoer, and the underminer on the day when they came becoming Ifá students, on the day when Ifá (an expert system of spiritual cultivation) would sweep nasty conduct away from their hands. It was said that they ought to come doing ẹbọ. They heard; they did ẹbọ.

Ifá ní kí ẹ kọ mí. Maa là. Maa gbà iyì. N kò níí tẹ. Ifá, sà àmì sí mí.

It is Ifá that y'all ought to teach me. I will be prosperous. I will receive respect. I will not fall into disgrace. Ifá, put (your) mark on me.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 16:6] By loving-kindness and truthfulness, wrongdoing will be atoned for, and by reverence for Ha'el (God), one turns himself aside from what is bad.

A10 Òsá as the right leg

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10.01 Òsá (taking timely action) helps Ogbè (a wholesome road).

Èbìtì pa ajá, sùgbón kò rójú jẹ ajá. Èbìtì pa àgbò, sùgbón kò rójú jẹ àgbò. Èbìtì pa òbúkọ, sùgbón kò rójú jẹ òbúkọ.

Animal-trap killed a dog, but he did not have the opportunity to eat the dog. Animal-trap killed a ram, but he did not have the opportunity to eat the ram. Animal-trap killed a he-goat, but he did not have the opportunity to eat the he-goat. [Note: The preceding statements involve efforts to no gain].

Èṣù l'àà jékí N kó ọrọ̀ délé.

It is Èṣù (the òrìṣà of opportunity and crossroads tests) who will allow that I bring riches home.

Ètùtù: Dà epo sílẹ̀ nínú ilẹ̀ tàbí n'íta, àbí kí o dà epo sórí Èṣù.

An ètùtù: Pour palm oil (which is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly) to the ground inside the home or outdoors, or you ought to pour palm oil onto (the talisman of) Èṣù.

Òsá Ìwòrì

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10.03 Òsá (taking timely action) is helped by Ìwòrì (seeing things clearly).

Òsá wò ó. Ìwòrì wò ó. Ohun tí a bá jọ wò, gégé ni ígún.

Òsá looks at it. Ìwòrì looks at it. That which we happen to come together to look at, it is exactly right.

Ìmòrán ní ẹ̀ṣẹ̀ ẹ̀gbón Èdú. Ìmòrán, mo dá ọ̀ tẹ̀lẹ̀ kí N tó dá ikin.

It is Careful-consideration that is the elder sibling of Èdú (Jet-black, a name of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom). Careful-consideration, I cast you beforehand before I reach the point of casting ikin (sacred palm kernels that are used to perform Ifá divination).

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó fí làákàyè. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ẹ̀ ẹ̀bọ̀ fún Èlà, afi inú ẹ̀ ẹ̀gbón. Báyii ni yóò lè rò nkan rẹ̀ wò.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to use good sense. The person in question ought to come doing ẹ̀bọ̀. He ought moreover to come doing ẹ̀bọ̀ for Èlà, the one who uses (his) insides

to practice wisdom. It is in this manner that he will be able to give his affair careful consideration.

Extra: When dealing with matters, begin by using good sense.

Ọsá Ọdí

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10.04a Ọsá (taking timely action) is hindered by Ọdí (blockage or enemies).

Ọnà Ọsá kò ì là. Ọnà Ọsá mà dí o! Èlà ní: “Èbọ ni kí a ẹ kí ọnà baà lè là fún Ọsá.”

The way of Ọsá is not yet split open. The way of Ọsá is indeed blocked! Èlà (the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) said: “It is èbọ that ought to be done so that the way may be able to split open for Ọsá.”

Èbọ: Fi fitílà, epo, àti egbàárin owó. Tàn fitílà náà nígbàtí o bá nṣe èbọ lówó. Fi àkóse Ifá.

An èbọ: Use a candle, palm oil (which is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly), and money worth 8000 cowries. Light the aforementioned candle when you happen to be doing the èbọ at hand. Use Ifá medicine.

Àkóse Ifá: Pò ewé ilá pèlú oṣẹ fún wíwẹ.

Ifá medicine: Mix okra leaves (*Abelmoschus esculentus*: used to make someone slippery against the grip of negative energy) together with soap for cleansing yourself.

10.04b Ọsá (taking timely action) is helped by Ọdí (having a sound foundation).

Bí èyànbá bá l’órí-ire, bí kò n’ìwà-rere, àísí iwà rere ni yóò bà orí òun jẹ.

If a human being happens to have good luck, (but) if he does not have good conduct, then it is the absence of good conduct that will spoil his luck.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó mú iwà rere hù. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to take good conduct to develop. The person in question ought to come doing èbọ.

Ọsá Ìrosùn

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10.05 Ọsá (taking timely action) helps Ìrosùn (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Kéké pa rere, Ọsá Ìrosùn. Ayé kélé n’ìgbín wá, Ọsá Ìrosùn.

Silence fell well (that is, things quieted down completely), Ọsá Ìrosùn. It is a stealthy life that the snail (whose slow movement symbolizes calmness and caution that avert trouble) looks for, Ọsá Ìrosùn.

A dífá fún Alágẹmọ. A ní kí ó maa fi ẹsò-ẹsò ẹ ayé. Báýìí ni ayé Alágẹmọ òò tutù. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Chameleon. It was said that he ought to be using caution-caution to practice life. It was in that manner that the life of Chameleon would be cool. It was said that he ought to come doing èbọ. He heard; he did èbọ.

Kò pé; kò jinnà. Ayé Alágemọ wá tutù jù omi lẹ.

It did not take long; it was not far away. The life of Chameleon came being cool more than water.

Extra: Cautious gradual efforts will culminate in success.

Ọsá Ọwónrín

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10.06 Ọsá (taking timely action) helps **Ọwónrín** (taking measured action; walking honorably).

Iṣẹ n'ṣe itọjú. Ọwò ṣiṣe n'ibèèrè.

It is (one's) work that is an act of caring. It is doing business (that is, one's dealings) that is a matter of asking questions. [Note: Here are two examples of giving attention to the quality of one's deeds].

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà nígbà tí yóò fọwọbà ire. A ní kí ó dì baba láíláí mú, kí ó dì baba ìgbàaní mú. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ṣe ibọ fún Èṣù.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) when he would lay hands on good things. It was said that he ought to take hold of ancient ancestors, that he ought to take hold of ancestors of ancient times. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for Èṣù (the òrìṣà of opportunity and crossroads tests).

Tal'ó wá ṣe tí mo lájé? Ọpélopé baba láíláí; ọpélopé baba ìgbàaní. Tal'ó wá ṣe tí mo l'áya? Ọpélopé baba láíláí; ọpélopé baba ìgbàaní.

Who comes causing me to have money? I give thanks to ancient ancestors; I give thanks to ancestors of ancient times. Who comes causing me to have spouses? I give thanks to ancient ancestors; I give thanks to ancestors of ancient times.

Tal'ó wá ṣe tí mo bímọ? Ọpélopé baba láíláí; ọpélopé baba ìgbàaní. Tal'ó wá ṣe tí mo n'ire gbogbo? Ọpélopé baba láíláí; ọpélopé baba ìgbàaní.

Who comes causing me to beget children? I give thanks to ancient ancestors; I give thanks to ancestors of ancient times. Who comes causing me to have every good thing? I give thanks to ancient ancestors; I give thanks to ancestors of ancient times.

Extra: [an *Akan* saying] *Woforo dua pa a na yepia wo* (It is when you climb a good tree that we push you).

Ọsá Ọbàrà

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10.07 Ọsá (running away from a challenge) hinders **Ọbàrà** (asserting oneself with dignity).

Ojo ni ibarajé.

It is the coward who gives way to fear.

A dífá fún Akèrègbè, tí ó gbékèlé obìnrin àti ọmọdé. A ní kí Akèrègbè wá rúbọ kí àwọn tí ṣe ẹlẹgbé lẹhìn rẹ, wọn má baà yẹ ẹ sílẹ lójijì l'ọjó tí ó wà nínú ọlá rẹ. Ó kọ; kò rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Calabash, who put trust in women and youngsters. It was said that Calabash ought to come doing *ebọ* so that they who are companions behind him, they may not disappoint him suddenly on the day when he is in his glory. He refused; he did not do *ebọ*.

Extra: **1.** Some whom one has trusted may disappoint him when he most expects their support. **2.** [*Dilogún* 9-6] He who is not well-acquainted with his friend is not well-acquainted with his enemy.

Òsá Òkànràn

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10.08 Òsá (taking timely action) hinders Òkànràn (touching trouble).

Òsá Òkànràn, a dífá fún Àgbònín. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ọ̀ràn iwọ̀sí tó dé, kí ó má baà kú s'ọ̀wọ ọ̀tá, kí ó baà lè gbà ara rẹ̀ sílẹ̀. Ó kọ; kò rúbọ.

Òsá Òkànràn, *Ifá* divination was performed for Deer. It was said that he ought to come doing *ebọ* before matters of insult reached the point of happening, so that he may not die at the hands of an opponent, so that he may be able to rescue himself. He refused; he did not do *ebọ*.

Àgbònín ní: “Ìwo mi tó kọ̀ iyà.” A ní: “Láti òkèèrè l’ọ̀tá oò maa fi ọ̀ràn ránṣẹ̀ tí yóò maa kàn ẹ̀ l’ára.” Ó ní: “Ìwo mi tí tó dáàbòbò mi.” Şùgbọ̀n iwo rẹ̀ kò tó.

Deer said: “My horns are sufficient to reject distress.” It was said: “It is from distant lands that opponents will be sending trouble that will be affecting you.” He said: “My horns have already been sufficient to protect me from danger.” But his horns were not enough.

Extra: **1.** [The Bible, Proverbs 27:12] A clever one foresees something bad (and) hides himself (that is, keeps himself out of its range); simpletons overstep (and) pay the penalty (that is, suffer the consequences resulting from taking an erroneous course of action). **2.** Do not overrate your ability to handle a challenge.

Òsá Ògúndá

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10.09 Òsá (taking timely action) helps Ògúndá (clearing a way).

Àşùwà dá ọ̀run. Àşùwà dá ayé. Ire gbogbo wá di àşùwà.

Grouping together created heaven. Grouping together created earth. All good things came becoming a grouping together.

Irun pé şùşù; wọn gbà orí. Omi pé şùşù; wọn di òkun. Igi pé şùşù; wọn di igbó. Erúwà pé şùşù; wọn di ọ̀dàn. Iràwọ̀ pé şùşù; wọn gbà ọ̀run. Ità pé şùşù; wọn bò ilẹ̀.

Hairs assembled intensely; they took over the head. Bodies of water assembled intensely; they became an ocean. Trees assembled intensely; they became a forest. Gamba grasses assembled intensely; they became a savannah. Stars assembled intensely; they took over the sky. Yellow ants assembled intensely; they covered the ground.

Ñjẹ, bí orí kan bá sunwọ̀n, yóò ràn igba. Orí mi tí ó sunwọ̀n l’ó ràn yín. Orí yín tí ó sunwọ̀n l’ó ràn mi. Bí orí kan bá sunwọ̀n, yóò ràn igba.

Therefore, if one head happens to be good, then it will affect two hundred. It is my head that is good that affects y'all. It is your heads that are good that affects me. If one head happens to be good, then it will affect two hundred.

Extra: There is beneficial strength in united efforts that are properly directed.

Òsá Méjì

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10.10a *Òsá* (taking timely action) is doubled.

Ìgbà ìgbà-òhún, ìgbà iwòyí nísinsinyí, ìgbà ọ̀lẹ́ tí íbọ́ – kò sí ìgbà tí mo là tí N kò ní ẹ̀ rere l'áyé.

The period of times-gone-by, the period of the present time just now, the period of tomorrow that is coming – there is no period in which I am prosperous that I will not do good things in life.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-iyèrẹ̀ ìgbà ọ̀jò, tí íbẹ́ láárín ịsẹ́. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-iyèrẹ̀ (Ashanti pepper seed) of the rainy season, who was in the midst of poverty. It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*.

Ìgbà ọ̀jò ni ipónjù Ọmọ-iyèrẹ̀ mọ́. Bí ó bá di ìgbà ẹ̀rùn tán, yóò di onígba okùn, yóò di onígba idẹ́ o!

It was the rainy season to which the distress of Ọmọ-iyèrẹ̀ was limited. If it happens to become the dry season completely, then she will become the possessor of 200 *okùn* beads (which are worn by royalty), she will become the possessor of 200 pieces of brass! [Note: Ashanti pepper seeds flourish during the dry season and not during the rainy season].

Extra: [*Qōhelet* (Ecclesiastes) 3:1] (There is) for everyone an allocated time, and (there is) a time for every desired goal under the heavens.

10.10b *Òsá* (taking timely action) is doubled.

Èlẹ́lẹ́ wẹ̀rẹ́, awo abẹ́ Òwú, l'ó dífá fún Òwú, arò-bùjẹ́ l'ẹ̀nu ọmọ ẹyẹ́, nígbà tí íbẹ́ nínú ịsòro nítorí àwọn ọmọ ẹyẹ́.

It was Èlẹ́lẹ́ wẹ̀rẹ́, the priest of the underside of Cotton-wool, who performed *Ifá* divination for Cotton-wool, the one who was tender to be chewed in the mouth of the birds (a reference to bird-people), when he was in difficulty because of the birds.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́. Ó sì ẹ́ ẹ́ ẹ́ ẹ́ fún Òrìṣànlá, bàntà-banta nínú àlẹ́.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for Òrìṣànlá (the òrìṣà of moral sense), the immense one in white clothing (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness).

Ìṣojú gbogbo ẹyẹ́ l'Òwú là.

It was in the presence of all of the birds that Cotton-wool became prosperous.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí íbẹ̀ nínú ìṣòro nítórí àwọn ẹ̀lẹ̀yẹ. Wọn kò jẹ́kí olúwarẹ rí ojútùú ayé rẹ; wọn kò jẹ́kí ó ní láárí. Kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá di Òrìṣànlá mú. Báyií ni yóò sẹ́gun àwọn ẹ̀lẹ̀yẹ.

Ifá says that there is someone who is in difficulty because of *ẹ̀lẹ̀yẹ* (bird-people, a nickname of psychic agents). They do not allow that the person in question solve the problems of his life; they do not allow that he have importance. He ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He ought moreover to come taking hold of *Òrìṣànlá*. It is in this manner that he will overcome *ẹ̀lẹ̀yẹ*.

Òsá Ìká

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10.11 *Òsá* (taking timely action) hinders *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck).

Gbọ́ingbọ́in l'ó dífá fún Òkè nígbà tí íbẹ̀ láàárín ọ̀tá. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was Firm-firm who performed *Ifá* divination was performed for Mountain when he was in the midst of opponents. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*.

Ẹ̀jẹ́, ogúnlénírinwó ọ̀kọ̀ ni bọ Òkè jagun. Wọn gbìyànjú, sùgbón wọn run lẹnu. Ọ̀gọ̀talélegbẹ̀je àdà ni bọ Òkè jagun. Wọn gbìyànjú, sùgbón wọn run lẹnu. Ẹ̀dédẹgbẹ̀je àáké ni bọ Òkè jagun. Wọn gbìyànjú, sùgbón wọn run lẹnu.

Therefore, it was 420 hoes that approached Mountain to fight a war. They made attempts, but they perished at the mouth (that is, their blades broke). It was 1460 machetes that approached Mountain to fight a war. They made attempts, but they perished at the mouth. It was 1300 axes that approached Mountain to fight a war. They made attempts, but they perished at the mouth.

Òkè kò jẹ, Òkè kò mu. Òkè kò rù, Òkè kò fọ́n. Afẹ́fẹ́ kò rú Òkè gbésẹ́. Jàmbá kò lè sọ Òkè. Òkè ndúró gbọ́ingbọ́in.

Mountain does not eat, Mountain does not drink. Mountain does not lose weight, Mountain does not become thin. The wind does not incite Mountain to make a move. Mishaps are not able to pierce Mountain. Mountain is standing firmly.

Extra: In the face of opposition, morally have the fortitude and stability of a mountain.

Òsá Òtúrúpòn

[\[Back to Òsá\]](#)

10.12 *Òsá* (taking timely action) helps *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive).

O rí ẹ̀ni tí ó wí fún ẹ. Tàbí ẹ̀jẹ́ o kò rí ẹ̀ni tí ó wí fún ẹ? O mà rí ẹ̀ni tí ó wí fún ẹ. Ẹ̀wọ l'ó kì ífẹ́ gbọ.

You saw people who told you (good advice). Or did you not see people who told you? You indeed saw people who told you. It was you who never wanted to listen.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 12:15] The way of a wayward one is satisfactory in his own eyes, but one who listens obediently to sagacious advice is a wise one.

Òsá Òtúra

[\[Back to Òsá\]](#)

10.13 Òsá (taking timely action) helps Òtúra (averting a worrisome situation).

Ọfọ: Òtító n'ìwà Ẹlédàá. Òtító l'òrò tí kò lè ṣubú. Ifá l'òtító. Òtító l'òrò tí kò lè bàjẹ – agbára nlá, ajùlọ, ire àìl'ópín.

Incantation: It is truth that is the character of Ẹlédàá (Creator God). It is truth that is the word that is not able to fall. It is *Ifá* that is truth. It is truth that is the word that is not able to be spoiled – great ability, one that surpasses (all), good things not having an end.

A dífá fún àwọn ọmọ aráyé. A ní kí wọn maa ṣòtító.

Ifá divination was performed for the people of the world. It was said that they ought to be practicing truth.

Ṣòtító, ṣòdodo. Ẹni tí ó ṣòtító l'Ẹlédàá nǵbè.

Practice truth, practice righteousness. It is the person who practices truth whom Ẹlédàá (Creator God; Man's godself) is supporting.

Àkóse Ifá: Pè ọfọ náà s'ìyèròsùn tí o ti tẹ lí Òsá Òtúra. Pò ìyèròsùn yìi pẹlú ẹkọ fún mímu tàbí epo fún lílá kí o baà lè mọ òtító.

Ifá medicine: Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to *ìyèròsùn* that you have imprinted with Òsá Òtúra. Mix this *ìyèròsùn* together with maize porridge for drinking or with palm oil (which is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly) for licking so that you may be able to limit yourself to truth.

Extra: Limit yourself to that which conforms to divine standards.

Òsá Ìrètẹ

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10.14 Òsá (taking timely action) is hindered by Ìrètẹ (unwholesome influences).

Bí ẹni kò l'ọlá, kí ẹni má fí ohun ọlá. Bí èyàrán kò tó ọlọ̀tọ̀, kí ó má fí ohun ọlọ̀tọ̀. Ẹni tí kò tó géndé, kí ó má mí bí i.

If one does not have honor, then he ought not to apply himself to affairs of honor. If a person does not attain to being a respectable, well-to-do person, then he ought not to apply himself to affairs of a respectable, well-to-do person. A person who does attain to being a muscular young man, he ought not to breathe like one.

Extra: [*Dilogún* 9-16] However much you disguise yourself as wise, your ignorance always reveals you.

Òsá Ọsẹ

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10.15a Òsá (taking timely action) helps Ọsẹ (overcoming through joyful optimism; overcoming trouble).

Mo sá fún ìṣẹ́. Mo yà fún òṣì.

I run away from poverty. I steer clear of deficient circumstances.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Mo sá fún ìṣẹ́. Mo yà fún òṣì. Njẹ ẹyin kò mò pé ewé ire l'Ọmọ-Èlà nífi í wẹ?

I run away from poverty. I steer clear of deficient circumstances. Do you not know that it is *ire* leaves (*Funtumia elastica*: used to attract blessings) that Ọmọ-Èlà is using to cleanse himself?

Àkóse Ifá: Fi ewé ire fún wíwẹ orí.

Ifá medicine: Use *ire* leaves for cleansing the head.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will attract helpful circumstances.

10.15b Ọsá (taking timely action) helps Ọṣẹ (overcoming trouble).

Ọsá kò ṣẹ. Ọsá kò rò. Ẹni tí a rò pé ó ṣẹ ẹni, kò ṣẹ ẹni.

Ọsá did not sin. Ọsá did not scheme. The person whom we thought that offended us, he did not offend us.

A dífá fún Ọwà, tí ifi ojú olè wò ẹnikan tí kò ṣẹ.

Ifá divination was performed for 'One who digs up dirt', who was putting the face of a thief on someone who did not offend.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí Èṣù má baà tí í lọ dúnrún mó èyàn kan tí kò ṣẹ é.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that Èṣù (the òrìṣà of opportunity and crossroads tests) may not push him to go falsely accusing a person who did not offend him.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 3:30] You ought not to contend with a person for no good reason, if he has not treated you badly.

Ọsá Ọfún

[\[Back to Ọsá\]](#)

10.16 Ọsá (taking timely action) is helped by Ọfún (acting with rectitude).

Èlà ní Ọsá Ọfún. Mo ní Ọsá Ọfún.

Èlà (the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) said Ọsá Ọfún. I said Ọsá Ọfún.

A nsá fún ejò kí ó má baà lè bù ẹni jẹ. A nsá fún erin kí ó má baà lè mú ẹni. A nsá fún ẹfòn kí ó má baà lè bá ẹni jà. A nsá fún iná kí ó má baà lè jó ẹni.

We are running away from the snake so that it may not be able to bite us. We are running away from the elephant so that it may not be able to get us. We are running away from the buffalo so that it may not be able to engage us in fighting. We are running away from fire so that it may not be able to burn us.

A nsá fún igbèsè kí ọmọ aráyé má baà lè fi ẹnì ẹ̀ẹ́yà. A nsá fún ohun olóhun kí a má baà lè di olè. A nsá fún èèwò kí ibi rẹ́ má baà lè mú ẹnì. Àwọn kì ísá fún ohunkóhun nínú ayé, adùn kò sí fún wọn, àjẹ-pẹ́ ayé kò sí.

We are running away from debt so that people of the world may not be able to use us to make ridicule. We are running away from the owner's property so that we may not be able to become thieves. We are running away from the taboo so that its badness may not be able to get us. Those who never run from anything in the world, there is no sweetness for them, there is no enjoying the world for long.

A dífá fún àwọn èyàn. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ́ kí wọn baà lè mò ohun tí ẹnì ibá sá fún. Apákan wọn l'ó rúbọ́. A ní: “Èyìn tí ẹ́ rúbọ́ óò pẹ́ nínú ayé. Ayé óò maa dùn fún yín.”

Ifá divination was performed for human beings. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that they may be able to know that which one ought to run away from. It was one side of them who did *ẹbọ*. It was said: “You who did *ẹbọ* will last long in the world. The world will always be sweet for you.”

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 27:12] A clever one foresees something bad (and) hides himself (that is, keeps himself out of its range); simpletons overstep (and) pay the penalty (that is, suffer the consequences resulting from taking an erroneous course of action).

A11 Ìká as the right leg

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Ìká Ogbè

Ìká Ìrosùn

Ìká Ògúndá

Ìká Òtúrú

Ìká Òyèkú

Ìká Òwónrín

Ìká Òsá

Ìká Ìrètè

Ìká Ìwòrì

Ìká Òbàrà

Ìká Méjì

Ìká Òṣé

Ìká Òdí

Ìká Òkànràn

Ìká Òtúrúpòn

Ìká Òfún

Ìká Òyèkú

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11.02 *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck) hinders *Òyèkú* (not missing out on bright possibilities).

Àrísà-iná l'ó dífá fún Aaka nígbàtí àwọn ọmọ aráyé níí í ẹ̀ẹ̀yà nítorí iwà ọjọ. Bí a pè Aaka n'íjà, yóò kákò nítorí pé kí ó má baà tẹ, kí ó má baà farapa, kí ó má baà kú. Nípa iwà yìí, ó di ẹnì yẹpẹ̀rẹ.

It was Fear-of-fire who performed *Ifá* divination for Pangolin (an animal that coils into a ball when threatened) when the people of the world were using him to make ridicule because of cowardly conduct. If Pangolin was called to a fight, then he would coil himself up so that he may not fall into disgrace, so that he may not suffer an injury, so that he may not die. Through this conduct, he became an insignificant person.

A ní kí Aaka wá rúbọ́ kí ó baà lè n'íyì nínú ayé.

It was said that Pangolin ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to have honor within the world.

Extra: [a saying from Anaïs Nin] Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage.

Ìká Ìwòrì

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11.03 *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck) hinders *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen).

Ẹ̀se ara rẹ̀, ẹ̀se ara rẹ̀. Ẹ̀ni tí ó dà eérú l'eérú ntọ̀. Ẹ̀se ara rẹ̀, ẹ̀se ara rẹ̀. Ẹ̀kàṣìkà fí ídájì ẹ̀se ara rẹ̀.

He damages himself, he works against himself. It is the person who pours ashes whom the ashes follow. He damages himself, he works against himself. An evildoer uses half to damage himself.

A dífá fún 'Inú kò gún', tí ígbèrò ibi. A ní kí ohun búburú tí ó maa ẹ̀ yìí, yóò dẹ̀yìn bọ̀wá bà á jẹ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó baà kọ̀ iwà ìkà sílẹ̀.

Ifá divination was performed for 'Insides are not right', who was intending something bad. It was said that this bad thing that he was intending to do, it would turn back to come ruining him. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may abandon unrighteous conduct.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó baà kò àṣìṣe rẹ sílẹ̀ tí yóò dẹ̀yìn bọwá bà á jẹ.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may abandon mistakes (that is, wrong actions, beliefs, or judgments) that would turn back to come ruining him.

Ìká Ìrosùn

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11.05 *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck) hinders *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Ìgbà tí Ìká kò l'òsùn, kín'ímú sawo?

The time when *Ìká* does not have an *Ifá* staff (an emblem of priestly office), what is it that he is taking to do (his) spiritual practice?

A dífá fún Ifátọ́lá, tí íṣe ọmọ Ẹ̀là, tí ilọ gbé àkún Òrìṣànlá bọ ọrùn.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ifátọ́lá* (a personal name meaning ‘*Ifá* touches honor’), who was a child of *Ẹ̀là* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), (but) who went carrying the beads of *Òrìṣànlá* (the *òrìṣà* of moral sense) to wear on (her) neck. [Note: Here is someone who is not attentive to the demands of her situation].

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ṣe ìbọ fún Ẹ̀là, aṣi inú ṣe ọgbón.

It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She ought moreover to come doing *ìbọ* for *Ẹ̀là*, the one who uses (his) insides to practice wisdom.

Èrò Ìpo, èrò Ọ̀fà, nǹjẹ̀ ẹ̀yin kò wá wò ọmọ aráyé bí wón tí ígbé ọmọ Ọ̀bà fún Ọ̀ṣun?

Travelers to *Ìpo* town, travelers to *Ọ̀fà* town, do you not come looking at people of the world like those who are handing a child of *Ọ̀bà* over to *Ọ̀ṣun*? [Note: According to legend, *Ọ̀bà* and *Ọ̀ṣun* were rival wives of *Ẹ̀ṣàngó*, the deified *Ọ̀yó* king].

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 19:2] Moreover, with no insightful knowledge, enthusiasm is not good, and one who makes haste with (his) two feet is one who goes astray.

Ìká Ọ̀wónrín

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11.06 *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck) is hindered by *Ọ̀wónrín* (walking honorably).

Ìkà-èèyàn kì íwón ohun tirẹ̀ kí ó tó ṣe é.

An evil person never weighs a thing of his before he reaches the point of doing it.

A dífá fún Alábámọ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó baà lè maa ṣe ohun rere. Ó kọ; kò rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘Possessor of regret’. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to be doing good things. He refused; he did not do *ẹbọ*.

Ìká Ọ̀bàrà

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11.07 *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck) hinders *Ọ̀bàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity).

Ìká ba, Ọ̀bàrà ba. Ọ̀bàrà ni kò bá kùnmò.

Ìká hides himself, *Ọ̀bàrà* hides himself. It was *Ọ̀bàrà* who refuses to get hit with a club.

A dífá fún ‘Èni tí a gbà á n’ímòràn, sùgbón kò gbọ́’, èyítí yóò maa dún lábẹ̀ aṣọ egúngún.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘Person whom we advised, but he did not listen’, the one who would be uttering sounds (as a spiritual entity) beneath the costume of a ceremonial ancestor masquerader. [Note: Here *Ifá* is euphemistically saying that being too headstrong leads to bodily death].

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. Kí ó sì wá ẹ̀ ibọ́ fún egúngún. Lẹ̀yìn náà, kí ó fí ojúbọ́ egúngún balẹ̀.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ́*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ́* for *egúngún* (honorable ancestors). After this, he ought to set up an *egúngún* shrine.

Èrò Ìpo, èrò Ọ̀fà, nǹjẹ̀ èyìn rí Ifá nṣe l’órò gangan?

Travelers to *Ìpo* town, travelers to *Ọ̀fà* town, do you not see *Ifá* taking action in the matter firmly?

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 29:1] A person of (numerous) admonishments, one who is stiff-necked, will suddenly be rendered ineffective with no remedy.

Ìká Ọ̀gúndá

[\[Back to Ìká\]](#)

11.09 *Ìká* (reaping a reward) is helped by *Ọ̀gúndá* (having the courage to take right action).

Ọ̀gún, dá mi láre. Ọ̀gún, jòwọ́ gbè mi. Kò sí ẹ̀ni tí ó l’ẹ̀jọ́ tàbí ìjà, tí kì íwí pé kí Ọ̀gún jòwọ́ gbè òun. Ẹ̀ni tí íṣe rere, yóò rí ire. Dandan ẹ̀ni rere l’Ọ̀gún óò gbè.

Ọ̀gún (the *òrìṣà* of iron and war), judge me innocent. *Ọ̀gún*, please support me. There is no one who has an issue or a fight, who never asks *Ọ̀gún* to please support him. A person who is practicing that which is good, he will see good things. Surely it is a good person whom *Ọ̀gún* will support.

A dífá fún Adé-tutù, ọ̀mọ ojo tí kò fí ọ̀kàn bà lé ẹ̀mí, akú-dé-ìdájì kí ìjà tó dé. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. Ó kọ́; kò rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘One who arrived cold’, child of the coward who did not put heart into his breath (that is, who did not breathe confidently), the one who was half-dead before the fight reached the point of arriving. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ́*. He refused; he did not do *ẹ̀bọ́*.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 26:1] Judge me innocent, *Ha’el* (God), because in my moral wholesomeness, I have walked, (and in) *Ha’el* (God) have I put trust to not fail; I do not waver.

Ìká Ọ̀sá

[\[Back to Ìká\]](#)

11.10 *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck) helps *Ọ̀sá* (running away from a challenge).

Ìwà búburú nímú ẹ̀ni ẹ̀ ojo.

Bad conduct causes a person to be a coward.

A dífá fún Olè. A ní Olè kò maa láyà bí olóhun. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó baà lè gbà ọ̀nà òtítọ̀-inú ní ohun. Ó kọ̀; kò rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Thief. It was said that Thief was not being courageous like the owner (from whom he stole). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to accept a way of truthfulness with regard to (acquiring) things. He refused; he did not do *ẹbọ*.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó gbà ọ̀nà ẹ̀sọ n'íwà rẹ. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ kí ó baà lè kọ àṣìṣe rẹ sílẹ.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to accept a way of careful attention regarding his conduct. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to abandon his mistakes (that is, wrong actions, beliefs, or judgments).

Àkóse Ifá: Lò ewé ẹ̀sọ àti ewé wọ̀rọ̀ láti sè jẹ gégẹ̀bí ọ̀bẹ̀ pẹ̀lú ìgbín mẹ́rin.

Ifá medicine: Use *ẹ̀sọ* leaves (*Elytraria marginata*: used to further careful attention) and *wọ̀rọ̀* leaves (which are used to establish a cool peace that keeps harmful influences away) to cook and eat according to a soup together with 4 snails (whose slow movement symbolizes calmness and caution that avert trouble).

Extra: Have the courage to abandon improper behavior.

Ìká Méjì

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11.11 *Ìká* (reaping a reward) is doubled.

Ìbà-réré, awo Iná, l'ó dífá fún Iná.

It was 'Paying respect from afar', the priest of Fire, who performed *Ifá* divination for Fire. [Note: The way in which one rubs his hands to warm them before a fire is similar to the way in which one moves his hands to pay respect before a ruler].

A ní ibikíbi tí Iná bá fí orí lé, ni yóò jẹ ọ̀nà fún un. Orí rẹ ọ̀ò là ọ̀nà fún un. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ẹ̀bọ fún Orí Ẹ̀lédàá.

It was said that wherever Fire happened to put his head on, it was there that he would eat a road for himself. His head would open a way for him. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Orí Ẹ̀lédàá* (Man's godself).

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí ifẹ̀ ẹ̀ ohun kan. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ kí Orí rẹ baà lè là ọ̀nà fún un.

Ifá says that there is someone who is wanting to do a thing. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that his *Orí* may be able to open a way for him.

Extra: The power of God is within you, and so you can transcend any circumstance, habit, or personality trait. Attune yourself to *Orí Ẹ̀lédàá* (Man's godself) so that you may open a suitable road to achievement.

Ìká Òtúrúpọ̀n

[\[Back to Ìká\]](#)

11.12 *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck) is hindered by *Òtúrúpọ̀n* (being productive).

Bàájé-bàájé dé. Ó bá ẹnì lódò Túnniṣe-túnniṣe.

‘That which spoils him’ arrived. He found us in the presence of ‘That which improves us’.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí Bàájé-bàájé má baà lè bà iwà rẹ̀ jẹ́. Kí olúwarẹ̀ sì wá ẹ̀ ibọ́ fún Orí Èlédàà.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that ‘That which spoils him’ may not be able to spoil his character. The person in question ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Orí Èlédàà* (Man’s godself).

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 16:17] The high way of upright ones is to turn themselves aside from what is bad; one who watches over his spirit is one who safeguards his conduct.

Ìká Òtúrá

[\[Back to Ìká\]](#)

11.13 *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck) is hindered by *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

Ìká tì mi; mi ò ṣubú. Ìká nírán ibi s’ílẹ̀ mi; ilẹ̀ mi kò tú. Gbogbo ire nńkójọ.

Ìká pushed me; I did not fall. *Ìká* was sending bad things to my house; my house did not fall apart. All good things were gathering together.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà. A ní ojú óò tì gbogbo àwọn tí íbá Ọmọ-Èlà ẹ̀ ọ̀tá. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọmọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). It was said that shame would come over all those who were meeting *Ọmọ-Èlà* as an opponent. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Àkóse Ifá: Jó ewé itọ́, ewé kuti, àti ataare pọ́ fún pípò àjẹkù pẹ̀lú ọ̀ṣẹ́. Bù ọ̀ṣẹ́ yìí fún wíwẹ́.

Ifá medicine: Burn *itọ́* leaves, *kuti* leaves, and melegueta peppers to be together for mixing the remains together with soap. Portion out this soap for cleansing yourself.

A12 Òtúrúpòn as the right leg

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Òtúrúpòn Ogbè	Òtúrúpòn Ìrosùn	Òtúrúpòn Ògúndá	Òtúrúpòn Òtúrá
Òtúrúpòn Òyèkú	Òtúrúpòn Òwónrín	Òtúrúpòn Òsá	Òtúrúpòn Ìrètè
Òtúrúpòn Ìwòrì	Òtúrúpòn Òbàrà	Òtúrúpòn Ìká	Òtúrúpòn Òsé
Òtúrúpòn Òdí	Òtúrúpòn Òkànran	Òtúrúpòn Méjì	Òtúrúpòn Òfún

Òtúrúpòn Ìwòrì

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12.03 Òtúrúpòn (being productive) is helped by Ìwòrì (seeing things clearly).

Òtúrúpòn Ìwòrì, a dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà nígbà tí ọsawo rẹ ọde Àìmọ-ìwà-hù.

Òtúrúpòn Ìwòrì, Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) when he was going on a spiritual mission to the town of ‘Not knowing how to behave’.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Èṣù àti Èlà.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for Èṣù (the òrìṣà of opportunity and crossroads tests) and Èlà.

Wọn ibá ti lájé, ibá ti pé o! Èṣù, àìmọ-ìwà-hù wọn ni o! Wọn ibá ti l’áya, ibá ti pé o! Èṣù, àìmọ-ìwà-hù wọn ni o!

If they had had money, then it would have lasted a long time! Èṣù, their not-knowing-how-to-behave it was! If they had had spouses, then it would have lasted a long time! Èṣù, their not-knowing-how-to-behave it was!

Wọn ibá ti bímọ, ibá ti pé o! Èṣù, àìmọ-ìwà-hù wọn ni o! Wọn ibá ti n’íre gbogbo, ibá ti pé o! Èṣù, àìmọ-ìwà-hù wọn ni o!

If they had begotten children, then it would have lasted a long time! Èṣù, their not-knowing-how-to-behave it was! If they had had every good thing, then it would have lasted a long time! Èṣù, their not-knowing-how-to-behave it was!

Extra: **1.** One is somehow bound to someone who exhibits bad behavior. **2.** One’s bad behavior will rob one of potential blessings.

Òtúrúpòn Òbàrà

[\[Back to Òtúrúpòn\]](#)

12.07 Òtúrúpòn (being productive) is helped by Òbàrà (asserting oneself with dignity).

Òtúrúpòn Ọ̀bàrà, a dífá fún Àdá, èyítí íṣìṣẹ́, ṣùgbọ̀n kò rí èrè jẹ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Òtúrùpòn Ọ̀bàrà, Ifá divination for Machete, the one who was doing work, but he did not see gains to enjoy (because it is the person using the machete who gets credit for its work). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*.

Kò pé; kò jìnnà. È wá bá ẹnì ní jẹbútú ire.

It will not take long; it is not far away. Come join us in plenty of good things.

Àkòsè Ifá: Lò ewé sẹ́funsẹ́fun. Pò ẹ̀tù yìi pẹ̀lú oṣẹ. Pa ẹ̀yẹ́lé àtì tẹ̀ orí rẹ̀ mọ̀ oṣẹ̀ nàà. Bù iyẹ̀ròsùn kí o tẹ̀ é lí Òtúrúpòn Ọ̀bàrà. Kó oṣẹ̀ nàà sínú igbá pẹ̀lú iyẹ̀ròsùn nàà. Wíwẹ̀ ni.

Ifá medicine: Grind *şefunşefun* leaves (*Aerva lanata*: used to attract prosperity and to ward off negative energy). Mix this powder together with soap. Kill a pigeon (which is used to help someone to fly majestically above dangers) and press its head onto the aforementioned soap. Portion out some *iyèròsùn* and imprint it with *Òtúrúpòn Ọ̀bàrà*. Take the aforementioned soap into a calabash together with the aforementioned *iyèròsùn*. A cleansing it is to be.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will have something good to show for their efforts.

Òtúrúpòn Ọsá

[\[Back to Òtúrùpòn\]](#)

12.10 *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive) is helped by *Òsá* (taking timely action).

A kì iyè pópó kí ó má kàn ilé. A kì iyè ọ̀nà tààrà kí ó má kàn ọ̀jà. A kì ígbé àwòrán gégégégé kí a má fí owó tì í sí ibi kan.

We never clear a wide street so that it does not come into contact with the house. We never clear a straight road so that it does not come into contact with the market place. We never carry a portrait with precision so that we do not use (our) hands to set it to somewhere. [Note: Each preceding statement involves an undertaking that reaches an expected outcome].

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one's undertaking will reach a proper conclusion.

Òtúrúpọ̀n Ìkà

[\[Back to Òtúrúpòn\]](#)

12.11 *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive) is hindered by *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck).

Ọpẹ sẹgesẹge l’ó baalẹ aṣòótọ. Kò gbódò purọ. Ọrọ tí ó bá sọ kì íyín. Ó ṣòótọ. Ọpẹ l’ó bí ikin tí gbogbo ayé ní.

It was dignified Palm-tree who was the chief of truth-doers. She must not tell lies. The words that she happened to say never fell short. She practiced truth. It was Palm-tree who gave birth to the *ikin* that the whole world is using (as the prime talisman of *Ẹlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom).

Ifá ní enìkan wà tí kí ó má fi òótó sílẹ̀. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ.

If *ā* says that there is someone who ought not to leave truth alone. The person in question ought to come doing *ebo*.

Ẹ̀títító, Ẹ̀dodo. Ẹ̀ni tí ó ẹ̀títító l'Ẹ̀lédàá ñgbè.

Practice truth, practice righteousness. It is the person who practices truth whom *Ẹ̀lédàá* (Creator God; Man's godself) is supporting.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 3:3-4] Loving-kindness and truthfulness ought not to forsake you – tie them onto your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. And may you attain to favor and good sense in the eyes of *ᵀElōhīm* (Creator God and his ministerial agents) and humankind.

Òtúrúpòn Méjì

[\[Back to Òtúrúpòn\]](#)

12.12a *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive) is doubled.

Òtúrúpòn l'ó dífá fún Ìgbín, tí ísawo rè Ìwà-dèrò. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was *Òtúrúpòn* who performed *Ifá* divination for Snail (whose slow movement symbolizes calmness and caution that avert trouble), who was going on a spiritual mission to Cool-and-easy-life. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*.

Ìgbà Ìgbín dé. Ó wá pè ẹ̀rò sí mi n'ílẹ. Ó wá pè ẹ̀rò sí mi l'ọ̀nà. Ó wá pè ẹ̀rò sí mi ní gbogbo ara.

The time of Snail is arriving. It comes summoning cool ease to me at home. It comes summoning cool ease to me on (my) path. It comes summoning cool ease to me in every form.

12.12b *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive) is doubled.

Ọ̀pẹ̀bẹ, awo Ẹ̀sẹ, l'ó dífá fún Ẹ̀sẹ nígbàtí gbogbo àwọn orí pè ara wọn jọ, sùgbọ̀n wọn kò pè Ẹ̀sẹ sí i. A ní kí Ẹ̀sẹ wá rúbọ. Ẹ̀sẹ gbọ; Ẹ̀sẹ rúbọ.

It was *Ọ̀pẹ̀bẹ*, the priest of Legs, who performed *Ifá* divination for Legs when all of the heads called one another to an assembly, but they did not invite Legs to it. It was said that Legs ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. Legs heard; Legs did *ẹ̀bọ*.

Ẹ̀sù ní: “Ẹ̀ kò pè Ẹ̀sẹ sí i. Ìjà l'ẹ̀ fí tóká nìbẹ.” Àwọn orí tó ránsẹ̀ pè Ẹ̀sẹ. N'ìgbà yìí n'ìmọ̀ràn tí wọn ñgbà tó gún.

Ẹ̀sù (the *òrìsà* of opportunity and crossroads tests) said: “Y'all (heads) did not invite Legs to it. It is a quarrel that y'all are causing to be spread there.” The heads reached the point of sending for Legs. It was at this time that the deliberations to which they were agreeing reached the point of being in good order.

Ọ̀pẹ̀bẹ mà dé o, awo Ẹ̀sẹ! Ẹ̀nikan kì ígbìmọ̀ràn kí ó fò t'Ẹ̀sẹ dá.

Ọ̀pẹ̀bẹ has indeed arrived, the priest of Legs! A person never plans and then skips over the matter of Legs.

Extra: [a saying from Cornelius Fichtner] Planning without action is futile; action without planning is fatal.

Òtúrúpòn Òfún

[\[Back to Òtúrúpòn\]](#)

12.16 Òtúrúpòn (being productive) is helped by Òfún (acting with rectitude).

Òtúrú l'ó gbòn òwú lèbèlèbè, l'ó mú u rẹ ran.

It is Òtúrú who cards cotton (that is, who takes coarse cotton, aligns its constituent fibers, and rids it of impurities), who takes it (carded cotton) to spin into yarn. [Note: Here is someone who refines cotton].

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Òrìṣànlá, tí irẹ ayé àpésìn. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Òrìṣànlá, bàntà-banta nínú àlà. Báyii ní yóò mú iwà rere hù.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Òrìṣànlá (child of Òrìṣànlá, the òrìṣà of moral sense), who was going to the world of leaders. It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. He heard; he did ẹbọ. He moreover did ibọ for Òrìṣànlá, the immense one in white clothing (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness). It was in this manner that he would take good character to develop.

Kò pé; kò jìnnà. Ẹ wá bá ẹnì ní jẹbútú ire.

It will not take long; it is not far away. Come join us in plenty of good things.

Extra: By rising above coarse and unsavory things, you will inspire others to follow your example of refinement.

A13 Òtúrá as the right leg

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Òtúrá Ogbè	Òtúrá Ìrosùn	Òtúrá Ògúndá	Òtúrá Méjì
Òtúrá Òyèkú	Òtúrá Òwónrín	Òtúrá Òsá	Òtúrá Ìrètè
Òtúrá Ìwòrì	Òtúrá Òbàrà	Òtúrá Ìkà	Òtúrá Òsé
Òtúrá Òdí	Òtúrá Òkànràn	Òtúrá Òtúrùpòn	Òtúrá Òfún

Òtúrá Ogbè

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13.01 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Kònkò, mo kò ibi lónìí o! Ikú, àrùn, èjò, òfò, ajogun gbogbo, mo kò ó. Kònkò, mo mà kò ibi o!

Frog, I rejected bad things today! Death, illness, litigation, loss, every *ajogun* (agent of distress), I rejected it. Frog, I indeed rejected bad things!

Ògèdè-àgbàgbà, mo gbà ire lónìí o! Ajé, aya, ọmọ, ire gbogbo, mo gbà á. Ògèdè-àgbàgbà, mo mà gbà ire o!

Plantain, I accepted good things today! Money, spouses, children, every good thing, I accepted it. Plantain, I indeed accepted good things!

Ènì tí ó bá maa wá ire ní íṣẹbọ. Ọmọ èyàrán kò lè gbà àìṣẹbọ kí ara rọ ó.

It is the person who happens to be looking for good things, who is doing *ẹbọ*. A person is not able to accept not-doing-*ẹbọ* and then his body put him at ease.

Òtúrá Ìwòrì

[\[Back to Òtúrá\]](#)

13.03 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by *Ìwòrì* (seeing things clearly).

Kí a má fí ìpónjù ìyàn lá ọbẹ gbígbóná. Bí a bá fí ìpónjù ìyàn lá ọbẹ gbígbóná, dájúdájú àá maa jó ènì l'ènu.

We ought not to use the distress of food shortage (as a reason) to lick hot soup. If we happen to use the distress of food shortage (as a reason) to lick hot soup, then surely we will be burning ourselves in the mouth.

A dífá fún Akínṣuyì. A ní kí ó má ṣe láìronú. Kí ó sì wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for *Akínṣuyì* (a personal name meaning 'bravery produces honor'). It was said that he ought not to act thoughtlessly. He ought moreover to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Extra: Do not act in ill-considered haste.

Òtúrá Ìrosùn

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13.05a Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) helps Ìrosùn (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Wúyewúyẹ l'ó dífá fún wọn ní tibọ́. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ́ kí ohun gbogbo tí wọn maa ẹ, kí ó má baà ẹ tibọ́. Wọn kò rúbọ́.

It was Subtly who performed *Ifá* divination for those at an impasse. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that everything that they were going to do, it may not make an impasse. They did not do *ẹbọ*.

Báyìí nì wọn ẹ ọ̀ràn owó, ó di tibọ́. Wọn sì ẹ ọ̀ràn aya, ó di tibọ́ pẹ̀lú. Ohun gbogbo tí wọn n̄se, ó m̀bò sí tibọ́.

It was in this manner that they dealt with a matter of money, and it became an impasse. They moreover dealt with a matter of spouses, and it became an impasse also. Everything that they were dealing with, it was arriving at an impasse.

Ifá ní ẹ̀nikan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó má baà maa rí ọ̀ràn tibọ́, kí ohun tí ó mú u, kí ó má bọ́ lẹ̀wọ́ rẹ̀ àtí kò sì lè tẹ̀ ohunkóhun.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may not get seeing a matter of impasse, so that a thing that he takes hold of, it may not get free from his hands and he not moreover be able to hold on to anything.

Extra: [an *Ifá* saying] *Rírú ẹbọ ni igbè ẹni; àìrú kì igbè ènìyàn* (It is doing *ẹbọ* that benefits a person; not doing it never benefits a person).

13.05b Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by Ìrosùn (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Òtúrá pọ̀n rọ̀ro. Ìrosùn pọ̀n rọ̀ro.

Òtúrá glows very red. *Ìrosùn* glows very red.

A dífá fún Àlà, tí irẹ̀ ayé aláìnn̄tẹ̀. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for White-cloth (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness), who was headed for a life of not having disgrace. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Aláṣọ àlà kì ilọ̀ jókòó sí isọ̀ elépo.

The wearer of white cloth never goes sitting down in the market stall of the palm-oil seller.

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 37:23-24] Because of *Ha'el* (God), the steps of a heroic person are made firm, and in his (the person's) path does he (*Ha'el*) take pleasure. Although he (the person) may stumble, he will not be thrown down, because *Ha'el* is one who props up his hand.

Òtúrá Ọ̀wọ̀nrín

[\[Back to Òtúrá\]](#)

13.06 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by Ọ̀wọ̀nrín (walking honorably).

Èyítí iwù wa nínú ayé kò wù Èlédàá. Ọmọ aráyé maa jókòó s'áyé kí wọn maa ẹ ibi. Èlédàá kò fẹ ẹ; Èlédàá kò gbà á. Ọmọ kò lè gbà àìmọ bàbá kí ayé gún.

That which is pleasing to us in the world is not pleasing to *Èlédàá* (Creator God). The people of the world keep sitting on earth so that they keep doing bad things. *Èlédàá* does not like it; *Èlédàá* does not accept it. A child is not able to accept not knowing his father and then his life be in good order.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 3:5-6] Put trust in *Ha'el* (God) with all your heart, and upon your personal outlook, you ought not to lean for support. In all your ways, be acquainted with him, and he will make satisfactory your paths.

Òtúrá Ọbàrà

[\[Back to Òtúrá\]](#)

13.07 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by **Ọbàrà** (asserting oneself with dignity).

Odó tí mo fi gún iyán, N kò ní fi gún ẹlú. Àtẹ mi tí mo fi pàtẹ ilẹkẹ, N kò ní fi pàtẹ ọrúnlá.

The mortar that I use to pound yams, I will not use it to pound indigo. My tray that I use to exhibit beads, I will not use it to exhibit dried okra. [Note: Here are two examples of single-mindedness].

A dífá fún Òtúrá. A bù fún Ọbàrà. A dífá fún Kérénsèlé, tí یشه ẹni ikẹta wọn. A ní kí àwọn mètẹtẹta ẹe bí t'Ifá.

Ifá divination was performed for *Òtúrá*. It (this divination) was shared with *Ọbàrà*. *Ifá* divination was performed for *Kérénsèlé*, who was their third person. It was said that the three of them ought to act according to the way of *Ifá*.

Òtúrá nşe bí t'Ifá; Òtúrá là. Ọbàrà nşe bí t'Ifá; Ọbàrà là. Sùgbọn Kérénsèlé wá nkábàámọ nítórí tí ó wá nşiyéméjì.

Òtúrá was acting according to the way of *Ifá*; *Òtúrá* became prosperous. *Ọbàrà* was acting according to the way of *Ifá*; *Ọbàrà* became prosperous. But *Kérénsèlé* came regretting because he came being double-minded (that is, irresolute).

Awo l'Òtúrá o! Awo l'Ọbàrà o! Kérénsèlé nìkan ni یشهmèjì o!

It is a priest that *Òtúrá* is! It is a priest that *Ọbàrà* is! It is *Kérénsèlé* alone who is double-minded!

Extra: If you keep comfortable company with ignoble influences, then you cannot win the company of noble influences.

Òtúrá Ọkànràn

[\[Back to Òtúrá\]](#)

13.08 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) hinders **Ọkànràn** (touching trouble).

Message: Distance yourself from a situation in which nasty influences are strongly entrenched.

Òtúrá Ògúndá

[\[Back to Òtúrá\]](#)

13.09a Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by Ògúndá (clearing a way; having the courage to take right action).

Wón ɛ èmi, ɣùgbón èmi kò bàjẹ. Apá wón kò ká tẹmi. Wón nǵégun. Wón nṣépè. Wón nífẹ ibi sí mi.

They (others) worked against me, but I am not ruined. Their arms did not dominate mine. They were invoking inheritable curses. They were invoking non-inheritable curses. They were wishing bad things to me.

Ọfọ: Òtúrá Ògúndá ní kí èmi má bèrù, kí èmi má ɛ ojo. Ó wí pé òun òò bá mi tún tẹmi ɛ, pé ayé tẹmi òò dára. Òtúrá Ògúndá l'ó wẹ orí tẹmi fún mi, kí ègún má baà lè mú mi, kí èpè má baà lè mú mi, kí èdì má baà lè mú mi, kí èfún má baà lè mú mi.

Incantation: Òtúrá Ògúndá said that I ought not to be afraid, that I ought not to be a coward. He said that he would help me to repair my affairs, that my life would be good. It is Òtúrá Ògúndá who cleanses my head for me, so that inheritable curses may not be able to get me, so that non-inheritable curses may not be able to get me, so that enchantment may not be able to get me, so that magical spells may not be able to get me.

Àkóse Ifá: Jó ewé ẹsọ, ewé ifẹn, àti ọpọlọpọ ewé ojúsàájú pọ. Pò àjẹkù pẹlú ọṣẹ. Kó ọṣẹ náà sínú igbá. Bù iyẹròsùn lé e lórí kí o tẹ ẹ lí Òtúrá Ògúndá. Pè ọfọ náà sí i. Bù ọṣẹ náà fí wẹ.

Ifá medicine: Burn ẹsọ leaves (*Elytraria marginata*: used to further careful attention), ifẹn leaves, and plenty of ojúsàájú leaves (*Petiveria alliacea*: used to help someone to think favorably of another) to be together. Mix the remains together with soap. Take the aforementioned soap into a calabash. Portion out some iyẹròsùn to be on it on top and imprint it with Òtúrá Ògúndá. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to it. Portion out the aforementioned soap to use to cleanse yourself.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will dispel the negative energy sent their way.

13.09b Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by Ògúndá (having the courage to take right action).

Èké kò kún ẹni. Ìkà kò kún ọmọ èyàn. Bí èké bá nýọ ilẹ dà, ohùn wẹrẹ abẹnu òò maa yọ ọ ní ɣíṣẹ. Òtító inú yó ẹni l'ájẹkù; ó jù irọ lọ.

Deception does not fully supply a person. Evil does not fully supply a human being. If a deceiver happens to be bringing himself to accept an oath to betray, then a small voice having a mouth will keep annoying him in the process (that is, his conscience will keep bothering him). Truthfulness satisfies a person beyond capacity; it surpasses falsehood.

Extra: One ought to be able to face oneself and others with a clear conscience.

Òtúrá Ọsá

[\[Back to Òtúrá\]](#)

13.10 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by Ọsá (taking timely action).

Ayé sí; ayé ñrè ire. Èyin ajogun ọrun, ẹ pẹ̀yìndà.

Life moved along (that is, underwent a change); life was headed for good things. You *ajogun* (agents of distress) of the spirit world, make a u-turn.

A dífá bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ayé. A bù fún bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ọrun. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ́ kí bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ayé má baà tẹ̀ lówọ́ ajogun. Wọn gbọ́; wọn rúbọ́. Wọn sì ẹ̀ ibọ́ fún Egbé.

Ifá divination was performed for respectable persons of earth. It (this divination) was shared with respectable persons of heaven. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that respectable persons of earth may not fall into disgrace at the hands of *ajogun*. They heard; they did *ẹbọ*. They moreover did *ibọ* for *egbé* (comrades of heaven).

Egbé, ẹ gbà mi o! Bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ọrun óò gbẹ̀jà bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ayé. Bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ọrun kò ní jẹ́kí bọ̀rọ̀kìnní ayé óò tẹ̀.

Egbé, rescue me! Respectable persons of heaven will fight on behalf of respectable persons of earth. Respectable persons of heaven will not allow that respectable persons of earth would fall into disgrace.

Extra: [an *Akan* saying] *Woforo dua pa a na yepia wo* (It is when you climb a good tree that we push you).

Òtúrá Ìká

[\[Back to Òtúrá\]](#)

13.11 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) hinders *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck).

‘Asaré geregere’ l’a ipè ikú. ‘Abìrìn gbẹ̀rẹ́’ l’a ipè àrùn. Bí erin bá já ọ̀pọ̀pọ́, yóò maa túraká. Bí ẹ̀fọ̀n bá já àbàtá, yóò maa túraká.

It is ‘One who runs away briskly’ that we call death. It is ‘Possessor of walking away suddenly’ that we call illness. [Note: The preceding statements are affirmations that death and illness will quickly go away]. If an elephant happens to get to the street, then it will be getting free and easy. If a buffalo happens to get to the swamp, then it will be getting free and easy.

Ọ̀fọ̀: Òtúrá Ìká túraká. Kí o bá mi tú oşó ká. Kí o bá mi tú àjẹ ká. Kí o bá mi tú ọ̀tá ká. Kí o bá mi tú ọ̀dídí ká. Kí o bá mi túraká.

Incantation: *Òtúrá Ìká* gets free and easy. You ought to help me to dispel male psychic attackers. You ought to help me to dispel female psychic attackers. You ought to help me to dispel opponents. You ought to help me to dispel blockages. You ought to help me to get free and easy.

Àkóse Ifá: Lọ ewé ẹ̀là àti iyèrẹ̀. Fà ẹ̀tù yíi sínú abọ́ amọ́ láti sè gégẹ́bí ọ̀bẹ̀ pẹ̀lú ẹ̀ja àrọ̀. Kí ọ̀bẹ̀ náà tutù. Pẹ̀ ọ̀fọ̀ náà s’iyèròsùn tí o ti tẹ̀ lí Òtúrá Ìká. Pò iyèròsùn yíi pẹ̀lú ọ̀bẹ̀ náà. Dà epo sílẹ̀ yí abọ́ amọ́ náà ká kí o tó jẹ ọ̀bẹ̀ náà.

Ifá medicine: Grind *ẹ̀là* leaves and Ashanti peppers into a powder. Scrape this powder into a clay receptacle to cook according to a soup together with a mudfish (which is used to bring about tranquility). Let the aforementioned soup become cool. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to *iyèròsùn* that you have imprinted with *Òtúrá Ìká*. Mix this *iyèròsùn* together with the aforementioned soup. Pour palm oil (which is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly) to the ground to surround the aforementioned clay receptacle before you reach the point of eating the aforementioned soup.

Extra: Move quickly in order to return to soundness.

Òtúrá Òtúrúpòn

[\[Back to Òtúrá\]](#)

13.12 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) helps Òtúrúpòn (being productive).

Òtúrá Bàlélé, a dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà nígbàtí ísawo rè òde Àìmọ-ìwà-hù.

Òtúrá Bàlélé (same as Òtúrá Òtúrúpòn), Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Èlà (child of Èlà, the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) when he was going on a spiritual mission to the town of ‘Not knowing how to behave’.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ṣe ibọ fún Èṣù àti Èlà.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for Èṣù (the òrìṣà of opportunity and crossroads tests) and Èlà.

Wọn ibá ti lájé, ibá ti pé o! Èṣù, àìmọ-ìwà-hù wọn ni o! Wọn ibá ti l’áya, ibá ti pé o! Èṣù, àìmọ-ìwà-hù wọn ni o!

If they had had money, then it would have lasted a long time! Èṣù, their not-knowing-how-to-behave it was! If they had had spouses, then it would have lasted a long time! Èṣù, their not-knowing-how-to-behave it was!

Wọn ibá ti bímọ, ibá ti pé o! Èṣù, àìmọ-ìwà-hù wọn ni o! Wọn ibá ti n’íre gbogbo, ibá ti pé o! Èṣù, àìmọ-ìwà-hù wọn ni o!

If they had begotten children, then it would have lasted a long time! Èṣù, their not-knowing-how-to-behave it was! If they had had every good thing, then it would have lasted a long time! Èṣù, their not-knowing-how-to-behave it was!

Extra: **1.** One is somehow bound to someone who exhibits bad behavior. **2.** One’s bad behavior will rob one of potential blessings.

Òtúrá Méjì

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13.13 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is doubled.

Ìtì ọ̀gèdè bọ̀ lówó gbénàgbénà. Gúnnugún bọ̀ lówó ajẹran. Irun òbò bọ̀ lówó onídírí.

The log of the banana tree is free from the hands of the carpenter. The vulture is free from the hands of the meat-eater. The hair of the vagina is free from the hands of the hairdresser.

A dífá fún Òro-tẹ̀rẹ̀rẹ̀ ẹ̀lùjù, tí ọ̀mọ aráyé ọ̀ò pa ibà lé e. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó baà lè pamọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Slender-òro-tree (whose edible pulpy fruit is well-liked by Yorùbá people) of the deep forest, on whom people of the world would heap respect. It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that she may be able to get kept safe. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*.

Mo bọ̀ lówó wọn nígbàyíí. Mo ṣe bọ̀rọ̀bọ̀rọ̀ bí ewé ẹ̀kukù. Mo bọ̀ lówó wọn nígbàyíí.

I am free from their hands at this time. I am slippery like the *ẹ̀kukù* leaf. I am free from their hands at this time.

Òtúrá Ìrètè

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13.14 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is hindered by Ìrètè (unwholesome influences).

Òtúrá Ìrètè, ẹni tí mò iwọn kì ítẹ. Mo ní: “Tani mò iwọn?” Èlà ní: “Ẹni tí íṣiṣẹ.” Mo ní: “Tani mò iwọn?” Èlà ní: “Ẹni tí kì iná owó rẹ tán.” Mo ní: “Tani mò iwọn?” Èlà ní: “Ẹni tí kì íjalè.” Mo ní: “Tani mò iwọn?” Èlà ní: “Ẹni tí kì íjẹgbèsè.” Mo ní: “Tani mò iwọn?” Èlà ní: “Ẹni tí kì idalẹ ọrẹ.”

Òtúrá Ìrètè, a person who knows moderation never falls into disgrace. I said: “Who knows moderation?” Èlà (the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom) said: “A person who is working.” I said: “Who knows moderation?” Èlà said: “A person who never spends his money completely.” I said: “Who knows moderation?” Èlà said: “A person who never steals.” I said: “Who knows moderation?” Èlà said: “A person who is never in debt.” I said: “Who knows moderation?” Èlà said: “A person who never betrays an oath of a friend.”

Ọfọ: Òtúrá Ìrètè, ẹni tí mò iwọn kì ítẹ. Amú-iwọn l’ó jí ní kùtùkùtù bá inú ara rẹ ńrò nítorí یشه رة. Amú-iwọn l’amò-ẹsò.

Incantation: Òtúrá Ìrètè, a person who knows moderation never falls into disgrace. It is one who takes moderation who wakes up in the early morning and engages his mind in calculating because of his actions. It is one who takes moderation who is familiar with careful attention (to his conduct).

Àkòṣe Ifá: Gún ewé ẹsò, ewé jókòjẹ, ewé jowóro, àti ọṣẹ pọ. Fi ẹsán owó tẹ mó ọṣẹ náà àti yí í ká. Kó ọṣẹ yí sínú igbá àdému. Bù iyèròsùn lé ọṣẹ náà lórí kí o tẹ ẹ lí Òtúrá Ìrètè. Pè ọfọ náà s’iyèròsùn yí. Bù ọṣẹ náà fún wíwẹ.

Ifá medicine: Pound ẹsò leaves (*Elytraria marginata*: used to further careful attention), jókòjẹ leaves (*Cissampelos owariensis*: used to help someone to ‘sit quietly’), jowóro leaves, and soap to be together. Use nine cowries to press onto the aforementioned soap and to go around it. Take this soap into a calabash with a cover. Portion out some iyèròsùn to be on the aforementioned soap on top and imprint it with Òtúrá Ìrètè. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to this iyèròsùn. Portion out the aforementioned soap for cleansing yourself.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 13:6] Righteousness safeguards one who is morally wholesome in conduct, but unrighteousness undermines a sinful one.

Òtúrá Ọṣẹ

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13.15 Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by Ọṣẹ (overcoming trouble).

Ìṣẹ mà tán. Ọlà l’ó kù.

Deficient circumstances indeed came to an end. It is ample circumstances that remain.

A dífá fún Òtúrá, tí yóò dà یشه nù sínú igbó. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Òtúrá, who would discard deficient circumstances into the woods. It was said that he ought to come doing ẹbọ. He heard; he did ẹbọ.

Lèhìn tí ó rúbọ tán, nkan rẹ bẹ̀rẹ̀sí gún. Ó là. Ọkàn rẹ balẹ. Ó n'ísìmi.

After he had done *ẹbọ* completely, his affair began to be in good order. He became prosperous. His heart felt secure. He was in relaxation.

Òtúrá Òfún

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13.16 *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation) is helped by *Òfún* (acting with rectitude).

Funfun n'iyi eyin. Àrí-ogun-má-sá n'iyi ọkùnrin.

It is white glossy enamel that is the honor of teeth. It is seeing-war-but-not-running-away that is the honor of a man.

A dífá fún Ọláṣeéńí, èyítí ará-ayé nbù ú kù, èyítí ará-ọ̀run nbùkún. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ipèsè.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọláṣeéńí* (a personal name meaning 'honor causes him to have'), the one whom inhabitants of earth were belittling, the one whom inhabitants of heaven were blessing. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ipèsè*.

Ẹ̀títọ́, ẹ̀dodo. Ẹ̀ni tí ó ẹ̀títọ́ ní imọ̀lẹ́ nǵbè.

Practice truth, practice righteousness. It is the person who practices truth whom *irúnmọ̀lẹ́* (divine ministerial agents) are supporting.

Ìpèsè: Fí epo pèsè fún ẹ̀lẹ̀yẹ.

An *ipèsè*: Use palm oil (which is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly) to provide for *ẹ̀lẹ̀yẹ* (bird-people, a nickname of psychic agents).

Extra: Whether or not people appreciate one's good works, one's advancement will come from the heavenly realm.

A14 Ìrètè as the right leg

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[Ìrètè Ogbè](#)

[Ìrètè Ìrosùn](#)

[Ìrètè Ògúndá](#)

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Ìrètè Ogbè

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14.01a Ìrètè (making one's mark) is helped by *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Àtègbè, awo Olókun, dífá fún Olókun nígbàtí omi inú rẹ̀ kò tó bù bọ́jú, nígbàtí omi inú rẹ̀ kò tó bù sìn ẹ̀şẹ̀. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó baà lẹ̀ nípon ká rí ayé. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

‘Making one's mark to give benefit’, the priest of *Olókun* (the *òrìşà* of the ocean), performed *Ifá* divination for *Olókun* when the waters of her belly were not sufficient to portion out to wash (one's) face, when the waters of her belly were not sufficient to portion out to rinse (one's) feet. It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that she may be able to be thick all around the world. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*.

Kò pé; kò jinnà. Olókun tóbi. Ó di ibú nlá.

It did not take long; it was not far away. *Olókun* became big. She became great deep waters.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one will become positioned to put their abilities to good use.

14.01b Ìrètè (unwholesome influences) hinders *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Message: [*Dilogún* 16-8] Capability and intelligence get diminished because of emotions.

Ìrètè Òyèkú

[\[Back to Ìrètè\]](#)

14.02 Ìrètè (unwholesome influences) hinders *Òyèkú* (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities).

Ibi tí o tẹ̀ ní kò sunwọ̀n. Ìtẹ̀ tí a tẹ̀ eérú, eérú a kò şe é mọ́ ilé. Ìtẹ̀ tí a tẹ̀ yanrìn, yanrìn a kò şe é gbé ró.

It is the place that you stepped on that is not good. The way that we step on ashes, ashes are not used to build a house. The way that we step on sea sand, sea sand is not used to erect (buildings).

Extra: Do not rely on someone or something that cannot give you proper support.

Ìrètè Ìwòrì

[\[Back to Ìrètè\]](#)

14.03 *Ìrètè* (practicing *Ifá*) helps *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen).

Berú-berú l'awo ilú Berú. 'So ọ̀dùn kọ; so ọ̀dùn gbà' l'awo Ìlúkà. 'Afi omidan wẹwẹ-wẹwẹ ẹ ilé' l'awo Alákòlé-Mẹsín.

It was *Berú-berú* who was the priest of *Berú* town. It was 'He ties the bamboo cloth to hang (on his body); he ties the bamboo cloth to receive (his body)' who was the priest of *Ìlúkà*. It was 'One who uses young-young ladies to handle (his) home' who was the priest of *Alákòlé-Mẹsín*.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà, tí ịsawo rẹ Ilé-Ifẹ, aje àtẹ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Èlà, alátúnṣe ayé, asọ-ọ̀rọ̀-di-ayọ.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọmọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), who was going on a spiritual mission to *Ilé-Ifẹ*, the (town) that eats (food) without flavor. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Èlà*, the master of improving one's life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy.

Ọfọ: Ifá ni yóò bù iyọ sí i. Ọ̀pẹ ni yóò bù iyọ sí i. Gbogbo ọ̀rọ̀ tí kò l'ádùn, Ifá ni yóò bù iyọ sí i.

Incantation: It is *Ifá* that will portion out some salt to it. It is *Ọ̀pẹ* (Palm-tree, a name of *Ifá*) that will portion out some salt to it. Every matter that does not have flavor, it is *Ifá* that will portion out some salt to it.

Àkóse Ifá: Pẹ ọfọ náà s'iyèròsùn tí o tí tẹ lí Ìrètè Ìwòrì. Pò iyèròsùn yíi pẹlú iyọ. Fí iyọ yíi sà fún onjẹ tí o bá sẹ é.

Ifá medicine: Pronounce the aforementioned incantation to *iyèròsùn* that you have imprinted with *Ìrètè Ìwòrì*. Mix this *iyèròsùn* together with salt. Use this salt to apply to food that you happen to cook.

Extra: *Ifá* will add a needed enhancement to the quality of your life.

Ìrètè Ọ̀dí

[\[Back to Ìrètè\]](#)

14.04 *Ìrètè* (making one's mark) is helped by *Ọ̀sá* (taking timely action).

Ajókòó-àgbà bí ẹni 'Má dide mọ'.

An elder one sitting down is like a person of 'Do not stand up anymore'.

A dífá fún Ọlọ. A ní ibi tí Ọlọ jókòó sí, kò ní wù ọ́ mọ. A ní kí ó dide.

Ifá divination was performed for Grindstone. It was said that the place where Grindstone sat, it would not be pleasing to her anymore. It was said that she ought to get up.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. A ní Ọlọ ọ̀ò maa rí ẹni tí yóò gbé ọ̀un. A ní Ọlọ ọ̀ò maa rí ẹni tí yóò gbé ọ̀un.

It was said that she ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. She heard; she did *ẹbọ*. It was said that Grindstone would be seeing people who would carry her.

Extra: It is time to leave something behind in order to move on to something that is sound and suitable.

Ìrètè Ìrosùn

[\[Back to Ìrètè\]](#)

14.05 *Ìrètè* (practicing *Ifá*) helps *Ìrosùn* (patiently persevering through difficulty).

‘Atẹ̀ sùn lélé’ l’ó dífá fún Ìrètè nígbà tí orí rẹ̀ nsùn lọ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ibọ fún Èlà.

It was ‘One who sets foot and sleeps on the ground’ who performed *Ifá* divination for *Ìrètè* when his personal destiny was falling asleep. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ*. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom).

Èlà, Ifá, iwọ l’o jí ọmọ l’óorun. Ifá, iwọ l’o sọ ikú alẹ̀ àná di ààyè. Ewé òjijí wá dé o; ó mó òpèré mi!

Èlà, Ifá, it is you who wakes a child from sleep. *Ifá*, it is you who transforms yesternight’s death into life. Here comes the *òjijí* leaf (*Dalbergia lactea*: used to wake things up); it clings to my slumbering spirit!

Àkóse Ifá: Gún ẹ̀ja òjijí, ewé òjijí, àti ọ̀ṣẹ̀ pọ̀ fún wíwẹ̀ orí.

Ifá medicine: Pound an electric mudfish, *òjijí* leaves, and soap to be together for cleansing the head.

Extra: *Ifá* will awaken you to the possibilities of your life potential.

Ìrètè Ọ̀bàrà

[\[Back to Ìrètè\]](#)

14.07 *Ìrètè* (practicing *Ifá*) helps *Ọ̀bàrà* (asserting oneself with dignity).

Kò sí ẹ̀ni tí apá ọ̀ba kò ká. Kò sí ẹ̀ni tí tètẹ̀ kò lè tẹ̀.

There is no person whom the arm of the king cannot dominate. There is no person on whom the treader is not able to tread.

A dífá fún Ọ̀mọ-Èlà, ọ̀mọ aládé, nígbà tí ibẹ̀ láàárín ọ̀tá. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ó bá ẹ̀gun wọ̀n. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọ̀mọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), child of the king, when he was in the midst of opponents. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ* so that he may happen to overcome them. He heard; he did *ẹ̀bọ*.

Ìrètè Ọ̀kànràn

[\[Back to Ìrètè\]](#)

14.08a *Ìrètè* (unwholesome influences) helps *Ọ̀kànràn* (touching trouble).

Bí orí ẹ̀ni nṣẹ́ é, yóó l’èèyàn ni íṣẹ́ é.

If one’s head is working against him, then he will say that it is (other) human beings who are working against him.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí orí-inú rẹ ńsẹ é. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ẹ ibọ fún Orí Èlẹdàá. Báyí nì kò ní ẹ ara rẹ.

Ifá says that there is someone whose *orí-inú* (that is, prevailing mental and emotional attitude) is working against him. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Orí Èlẹdàá* (Man's godself). It is in this manner that he will not work against himself.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 3:5-6] Put trust in *Ha'el* (God) with all your heart, and upon your personal outlook, you ought not to lean for support. In all your ways, be acquainted with him, and he will make satisfactory your paths.

14.08b *Ìrètẹ* (unwholesome influences) helps *Ọkànràn* (touching trouble).

Ìrètẹ Ọkànràn, a dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà n'íjọ tí gbogbo awo péjọ s'ílẹ Ọlọfin ńsẹ oró sílẹ dé e. A ní kí Ọmọ-Èlà gbàwẹ lónií kí ó baà lè yẹra fún oró létàn fún un lónií.

Ìrètẹ Ọkànràn, *Ifá* divination was performed for *Ọmọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) on the day when all of the priests met together at the house of the *Ifẹ* king and were making poison in readiness to reach him. It was said that *Ọmọ-Èlà* ought to fast on that day so that he may be able to avoid the deceitful poison for him on that day.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ọmọ-Èlà rẹ ilé Ọlọfin. Wọn gbìyànjú láti fi oró pa á, sùgbọn oró mú wọn nígbẹyìn. Ọmọ-Èlà sì jáde lọ lání ifarapa.

Ọmọ-Èlà went to the house of the *Ifẹ* king. They made attempts to use poison to kill him, but the poison took them in the end. *Ọmọ-Èlà* moreover emerged to go away without having injury.

Ẹbọ: Fi epo àti ẹgbẹ̀rindínlógún owó.

An *ẹbọ*: Use palm oil (which is used to tone down that which is potentially unruly) and money worth 3200 cowries.

Ìrètẹ Ọsá

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14.10 *Ìrètẹ* (making one's mark) is helped by *Ọsá* (taking timely action).

Àbọ̀n ẹ kẹ̀rẹ̀kẹ̀rẹ̀ di ẹyìn. Bí ikú kò bá pa àbọ̀n, bí ikú kò bá pa èkùrọ̀, yóò jẹ orúkọ tí ẹyìn níjẹ lóla o!

An unripe palm fruit acts little by little to become a ripe palm fruit. If death does not happen to kill the unripe palm fruit, if death does not happen to kill (its) palm kernel, then tomorrow it will answer to the name to which the ripe palm fruit is answering!

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí olúwarẹ sì wá ẹ ibọ fún Èlà, afi inú ẹ ogbọn. Báyí l'ohun òní kò ní bà ire ọlẹ jẹ fún un.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. The person in question ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the one who uses

(his) insides to practice wisdom. It is in this manner that a thing of today will not spoil the good things of tomorrow for him.

Extra: Taking proper action now avoids jeopardizing something good that could be achieved later.

Ìrètè Ìká

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14.11 *Ìrètè* (making one's mark) is hindered by *Ìká* (ill conduct or ill luck).

Àtẹkà, awo ọba, l'ó dífá fún ọba nígbàtí ìsókún pé apá rẹ kò lè ká ọràn. A ní kí ó wá àwọn tí yóò lè ràn òun lówó.

It was Treading-and-dominating, the priest of the king, who performed *Ifá* divination for the king when he was weeping that his arms were not able to handle matters successfully. It was said that he ought to look for those who would be able to render help to him.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ ibọ fún Sàngó. Báyii ni yóò rí olùrànlówó yíyẹ.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Sàngó* (the deified *Ọyọ* king who detests immorality and strikes wrongdoers with lightning). It was in this manner that he would see suitable helpers.

Apá ọba ni yóò ká o! Àyàfí bí òrùka kò bá ká ìka ọwọ, apá ọba ni yóò ká o!

It is the arms of the king that will handle successfully! Except if a ring does not happen to handle a finger successfully, it is the arms of the king that will handle successfully!

Extra: One needs able assistance in order to successfully handle the matter in question.

Ìrètè Òtúrúpòn

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14.12 *Ìrètè* (practicing *Ifá*) helps *Òtúrúpòn* (being productive).

Ọpẹ mbe l'ẹyin rẹ jù odi lọ.

Ọpẹ (Palm-tree, a name of *Ifá*) is at your back more than a town's walled fortification is.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó maa wò òkè-ìpònrí rẹ n'ídúróşinşin. Kí olúwarẹ wá rúbọ. Báyii n'ire nlá òò dé sí i.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to be directing his attention to his spiritual altar steadfastly. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. It is in this manner that great blessings will reach him.

Ìrètè Òtúrá

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14.13a *Ìrètè* (practicing *Ifá*) helps *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

Èlà, ẹ tún orí akápò rẹ ẹ.

Èlà (the *òrìşà* of knowledge and wisdom), rectify the luck of your disciple.

Ifá, jẹkí N lówó kí wọn kí mi kú orí-ire. Ifá, jẹkí N l'áya kí wọn kí mi kú orí-ire.

Ifá, allow that I have money so that people may congratulate me on good luck. *Ifá*, allow that I have spouses so that people may congratulate me on good luck.

Ifá, jẹkí N bíṃọ kí wọn kí mi kú orí-ire. Ifá, jẹkí N n'ire gbogbo kí wọn kí mi kú orí-ire.

Ifá, allow that I beget children so that people may congratulate me on good luck. *Ifá*, allow that I have every good thing so that people may congratulate me on good luck.

Àkóse Ifá: Gún ewé oríjì àti ọṣẹ dúdú pọ̀ fún wíwẹ ojojúmọ.

Ifá medicine: Pound *oríjì* leaves (*Hannoa undulata*: used to help someone to forgive another's mistakes) and black soap to be together for cleansing yourself daily.

14.13b *Ìrẹtẹ* (practicing *Ifá*) helps *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

Ikú kò mò awo, ọrun kò mò onísẹgùn. Afẹfẹ ọwọ ọtún nṣe ewé-àgbọn gbọn. Afẹfẹ ọwọ ọ̀sì nṣe ewé-àgbọn gbọn.

Death does not know a priest, heaven does not know an herb doctor. The breeze of the right hand is causing the coconut leaf to tremble. The breeze of the left hand is causing the coconut leaf to tremble.

A dífá fún Èlà, tí ó ní òun lọ tẹ Ikú ní Ifá. Ó fí Àgò ẹe ojùgbònà.

Ifá divination was performed for *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), who said that he was going away to initiate Death into *Ifá*. He caused 'Please give way' to be the *ojùgbònà*.

Ọfọ: Ikú tí ibá pa awo lóníí, àgò, àgò. Awo nlo; àgò, àgò. Àrùn tí ibá pa awo lóníí, àgò, àgò. Awo nlo; àgò, àgò.

Incantation: The death that would have killed the priest today, please give way, please give way. The priest keeps going on; please give way, please give way. The illness that would have killed the priest today, please give way, please give way. The priest keeps going on; please give way, please give way.

Àkóse Ifá: Tẹ lí Ìrẹtẹ Òtúrá n'ìlẹ ibi tí aláìsàn dùbúlẹ. Kó erúpẹ tí a fí tẹ Ifá náà síwájú aláìsàn náà. Pè orúkọ aláìsàn náà. Pè ògèdè náà, ẹ̀gbọn pè orúkọ aláìsàn náà dípò ọ̀rọ 'awo'.

Ifá medicine: Imprint with *Ìrẹtẹ Òtúrá* in the ground of the place where the ill person is lying down. Take the soil that you used to imprint the aforementioned *Ifá* in front of the aforementioned ill person. Pronounce the aforementioned incantation, but call the name of the aforementioned ill person instead of the word 'priest'.

14.13c *Ìrẹtẹ* (unwholesome influences) hinders *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

Ire ni igbà iwájú ilé. Ayọ ni igbà ẹ̀yìnkùlẹ.

It is blessings that are occupying the front of the house. It is joy that is occupying the backyard.

A dífá fún Ọlókòṣẹ. A ní kí ó wá rú ẹbọ iwà rere. Ó kọ; kò rúbọ. Njẹ, Ọlókòṣẹ l'ó fí iwà láìyẹ dà ire nù.

Ifá divination was performed for 'One who refuses to make an effort'. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* for good character. He refused; he did not do *ẹbọ*. Therefore, it was 'One who refuses to make an effort' who used unfit character to throw away blessings.

Extra: One who does not work at developing moral wholesomeness is one who throws away blessings.

Ìrètè Méjì

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14.14 *Ìrètè* (unwholesome influences; making one's mark; practicing *Ifá*) is doubled.

Ìwọ l'òtẹ. Èmi l'òtẹ.

It is you who is an imprinter (a reference to an *Ifá* practitioner as one who imprints *Odù Ifá*).
It is I who is an imprinter.

A dífá fún Al'ẹ̀sẹ̀-rere-má-l'órí-rere. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó baà lè l'órí rere pẹ̀lú ẹ̀sẹ̀ rere. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

Ifá divination was performed for 'One who has good feet but does not have a good head' (that is, one who works hard but is not headed in a suitable direction). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to have a good head together with good feet. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Àkóse Ifá: Gún ewé àpadà àti oşẹ pò fún wíwẹ.

Ifá medicine: Pound *àpadà* leaves (*Uraria picta*: used to turn things around toward good) and soap to be together for cleansing yourself.

Extra: With suitable spiritual effort, one's hard work will make a good mark.

Ìrètè Ọşẹ

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14.15 *Ìrètè* (practicing *Ifá*) helps Ọşẹ (overcoming trouble).

Ikú kì ijẹ ata. Ikúkíkú tí ayé nífi pa ẹnì, ẹ má jẹkí ó lé ẹ mi láíláí. Àrùn kì ijẹ àlùbòsà. Ẹ má jẹkí àrùn lé ẹ mi láíláí. Afẹfẹ búburú kì ijẹ iyèré. Ẹ má jẹkí afẹfẹ búburú lé ẹ mi láíláí.

Death never consumes pepper. Whichever manner of death that the world uses to kill a person, do not allow that it be able to harm me ever. Illness never consumes onions. Do not allow that illness be able to harm me ever. A bad wind never consumes Ashanti peppers. Do not allow that a bad wind be able to harm me ever.

Ifá, jẹkí ọwọ maa jẹ fún mi l'ọjó gbogbo. Ẹrọ pètẹ ni t'ìgbín. Gbogbo aburú tí ẹdà bá nşẹ fún mi, Ifá, jẹkí ó dẹrọ sí mi l'ára nitorí tí tútù-tútù l'a bá nínú otútù Ọpọn Ifá. Ẹtù l'ó ní kí ara tù mi. Gbogbo ibi ayé, Ifá, bá mi sọ ọ di ìrọrùn l'ára mi.

Ifá, allow that respect be complying with me every day. It is mushy coolness that pertains to the snail. All bad things that beings happen to make for me, *Ifá*, allow that they be less difficult for me because it is cool-cool that we meet within the cold of the *Ifá* tray. It is the guinea fowl that tells (my) body to calm me. All bad things of the world, *Ifá*, help me to transform them into a convenience for me.

Ìrètẹ tútù l'ó ní kí gbogbo ibi ó tẹbalẹ l'ára mi o!

It is cool *Ìrètẹ* who tells all bad things to bow down to me!

Extra: [a saying from Max Lucado] In God's hands, intended evil becomes eventual good.

Ìrètè Òfún

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14.16 *Ìrètè* (making one's mark) hinders *Òfún* (efforts of limited success).

Àwọn irúnmolè àti Orí Èlédàá nlo s'óde Àpéré. Orí nikan dé ibè.

The *irúnmolè* (divine ministerial agents) and *Orí Èlédàá* (Man's godself) were going to the town of Life-fulfilment. *Orí* alone arrived there.

Ñjé, Orí gbóná jù òrìṣà lọ. Orí nikan l'ó kó wọn l'ápéré. Kò sí òrìṣà tí ó tó ní igbè lẹyìn Orí eni. Orí mà gbóná jù òrìṣà lọ.

Therefore, *Orí* is 'hotter' than *òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents). It is *Orí* alone who takes them (people) to life fulfilment. There is no *òrìṣà* who is sufficient in supporting behind the back of one's *Orí*. *Orí* is indeed 'hotter' than *òrìṣà*.

Extra: The power of God is within you, and so you can transcend any circumstance, habit, or personality trait. Attune yourself to *Orí Èlédàá* (Man's godself) so that you may fully develop your life potential.

A15 Òṣẹ as the right leg

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[Òṣẹ Ogbè](#)

[Òṣẹ Írosùn](#)

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Òṣẹ Ogbè

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15.01 Òṣẹ (overcoming trouble) is helped by *Ogbè* (a wholesome road).

Òṣẹ tú eruku. Ifá ní Èlédàá òò dá ọjà kan fún àgbà kan kí ìpín rẹ má bàjẹ lójú rẹ l'áyé. Sùgbón kí ó wá rúbọ.

Òṣẹ loosens the dust. *Ifá* says that *Èlédàá* (Creator God) will create a market (that is, create a demand) for an elder so that his destiny may not be spoiled during his presence on earth. But he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*.

Òṣẹ Òdì

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15.04 Òṣẹ (overcoming trouble) is hindered by *Òdì* (blockage or enemies).

A kì ímú olè kí a má yan án. Bí a bá sẹgun, kí a mú ọlọtẹ dè. Bí a kò bá mú ọlọtẹ dè, ẹni tí a sẹ, bí ó bá simi tán, yòò ní òun l'ó sẹ ẹni.

We never catch a thief and then do not ‘roast’ him. If we happen to be victorious, then we ought to bind the rebel. If we do not happen to bind the rebel, then he whom we defeated, if he happens to rest completely, he will say that it is he who defeated us.

A dífá fún Sàánú-ọlọtẹ. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí àṣejù àánú má bàà sọ ọ di abòṣi.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘He pities the rebel’. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that excessiveness of compassion may not transform him into a wretch.

Extra: One ought to overcome their leniency toward someone or something that threatens their well-being.

Òṣẹ Ògúndá

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15.09 Òṣẹ (overcoming through joyful optimism) helps *Ògúndá* (having the courage to take right action).

Ìṣẹ kàn ẹnì; kò mò ojú. Ìyàn kàn ẹnì; kò mò àwọ. Agada kò mò orí alágbèdẹ tí ó rọ òun.

Deficient circumstances touch someone; it does not know his face. Scarcity touches someone; it does not know his (skin) color. The scimitar does not know the head of the blacksmith who forged it. [Note: The message here is that anyone can fall into adverse circumstances].

A dífá fún ‘Ọmọ ní iyìn rẹ’, ọmọ Gbòwújì, nígbà tí ayé kò yẹ é. A ní kí ó maa lò aṣọ funfun. Kí ó sì wá ṣe ibọ l’ókè-ìpọ̀nrí rẹ. Ó gbọ; ó bọ.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘Child says his praise’, child of *Gbòwújì* (*Òrìṣànlá*, the *òrìṣà* of moral sense), when life was not right for him. It was said that he ought to keep wearing white clothing (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness). He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* at his spiritual altar. He heard; he did *ibọ*.

Lẹhìn tí ó bọ tán, nkan rẹ bẹrẹ sí gún. Ayé yẹ é.

After he had done *ibọ* completely, his affair began to be in good order. Life was right for him.

Extra: [a saying from Roy T. Bennett] Nobody is exempt from the trials of life, but everyone can always find something positive in everything even in the worst of times.

Ọṣẹ Ọsá

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15.10 Ọṣẹ (overcoming trouble) is helped by Ọsá (taking timely action).

Bí Ọṣẹ sá, bí Ọṣẹ kò sá, Ọṣẹ oò dé ibi ìjà.

Whether Ọṣẹ runs away or whether Ọṣẹ does not run away, Ọṣẹ will arrive at the place of the fight.

A dífá fún Ewúré, Àgùtàn, àti Adiyẹ-òkòkó nígbà tí wọn nlo s’ògun Ilé-èèmọ. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ. Adiyẹ-òkòkó nìkan ni ibẹ lẹyìn tí írúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for She-goat, Sheep, and Hen when they were going to the war of House-of-burs (which symbolizes trouble that sticks to oneself). It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. It was Hen alone who was behind doing *ẹbọ*.

Wọn dé ogun Ilé-èèmọ. Ogun mú Ewúré. Ogun mú Àgùtàn. Ogun kò mú Adiyẹ-òkòkó.

They arrived at the war of House-of-burs. The war took She-goat. The war took Sheep. The war did not take Hen.

Extra: Do not involve yourself with anything that would bring you sticky trouble.

Ọṣẹ Ọtúrúpọ̀n

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15.12 Ọṣẹ (overcoming through joyful optimism) helps Ọtúrúpọ̀n (being productive).

Eni tí kò mò ẹnì l’ẹnì, tí kò mò èyànlá l’énìyàn, ni íwí pé t’obìnrin kò sí l’áyé.

It is the one who does not know a person as a person, who does not know a human being as a human being, who says that women do not amount to anything in life.

Èwùjì ní kí wọn má fojúdí í. Ó ní ẹnì tí ó bá foríbalẹ, yóò maa lájé, yóò maa l’áya, yóò maa bímọ, yóò maa l’ógbó.

Èwùjì (*Ọṣun*, the *òrìṣà* of beauty, fertility, childbirth, and child protection) said that they (people) ought not to undervalue her. She said that one who happened to make obeisance, he would be having money, he would be having spouses, he would be begetting children, he would be having longevity.

Kí ẹnìkan má ní: “Ènì atẹ̀yìntò l’obìnrin o!”

A person ought not to say: “It is a person who urinates from behind that a woman is!” [Note: This statement derogatorily refers to women as being backward people].

Extra: Do not belittle women.

Òṣé Òtúrá

[\[Back to Òṣé\]](#)

15.13 *Òṣé* (overcoming through joyful optimism) helps *Òtúrá* (averting a worrisome situation).

Àkéké ni ìbà igi ọ́. A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà, tí ilọ gbà ìbà òun àṣẹ n’ílẹ̀ Èlédàá. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

It is the axe that is landing on the tree to cut it. *Ifá* divination was performed for *Ọmọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), who went getting reverence and spiritual power at the home of *Èlédàá* (Creator God). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Àkéké ni ìbà igi ọ́. Ẹnu awo n’ìbà òun àṣẹ wà. Nígbà tí awo bá ní àà n’íre gbogbo, a maa n’íre gbogbo. Àkéké ni ìbà igi ọ́. Ẹnu awo n’ìbà òun àṣẹ wà.

It is the axe that is landing on the tree to cut it. It is the mouth of the priest where reverence and spiritual power exist. When the priest happens to say that we will have every good thing, we will be having every good thing. It is the axe that is landing on the tree to cut it. It is the mouth of the priest where reverence and spiritual power exist.

Extra: If you are attuned to divine purpose, then whatever you say will come to pass.

Òṣé Ìrètẹ̀

[\[Back to Òṣé\]](#)

15.14a *Òṣé* (overcoming trouble) is helped by *Ìrètẹ̀* (practicing *Ifá*).

Ìhín ni Òbá yà sí. Ọ́hún ni Òbá yà sí.

It is here where I would have deviated. It is there where I would have deviated. [Note: Here is someone attempting to find out where he went wrong].

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Èlà nígbà tí ọ́se ohun gbogbo tí ọ́kan kò lójú. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì lọ fí t’Èlédàá ọ́se ọ́nà. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ọ́se ibọ́ fún Èlà, afi inú ọ́se ọ́gbón.

Ifá divination was performed for *Ọmọ-Èlà* (child of *Èlà*, the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom) when he was doing everything for which (each) one did not make headway. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to go using the way of *Èlédàá* (Creator God; Man’s godself) to make a way. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Èlà*, the one who uses (his) insides to practice wisdom.

Kò pé; kò jinnà. Ire gbogbo wá yá dé tùtúru.

It did not take long; it was not far away. Every good thing came flooding in to arrive plentifully.

Ẹlédàá mi, gbà mi o! Ìwọ ni mo sádi. Ìwọ ni mo gbíyèlẹ. Ìwọ ni mo fẹ̀yìntì. Ẹnikan kì ifẹ̀yìntì Ẹlédàá kí ó dójúti ẹni. Ẹlédàá mi, gbà mi o!

My *Ẹlédàá*, accept me! It is you in whom I take refuge. It is you whom I trust. It is you on whom I lean for support. A person never leans on *Ẹlédàá* for support and then he puts the person to shame. My *Ẹlédàá*, accept me!

Extra: [The Bible, Psalm 128:1-2] How blessed is everyone who reveres *Haʹel* (God)! The one who walks in his (*Haʹel*'s) way, (it is) fruit of the labor of your hands that you will feed off. How blessed are you, and something good is headed for you!

15.14b *Ọ̀sẹ̀* (overcoming trouble) is hindered by *Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀* (unwholesome influences).

Èrò tí ó jìn sí kòtò l'ó kọ ará iyókù l'ọgbón.

It is the passerby who falls into a pit who teaches the remaining ones some wisdom.

Extra: Learn from the bad experiences of others.

Ọ̀sẹ̀ Méjì

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15.15 *Ọ̀sẹ̀* (overcoming trouble) is doubled.

Şekúbẹ, awo òde Ìbàdàn, l'ó dífá fún wọn l'óde Ìbàdàn. Wọn nífí omi ojú sògbéré ire. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ.

It was *Şekúbẹ*, the priest of *Ìbàdàn* town (whose establishment is rooted in *Ọ̀sẹ̀ Méjì*), who performed *Ifá* divination for those in *Ìbàdàn* town. They were using teardrops to cry about good things. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. They heard; they did *ẹbọ*.

Kò pé; kò jinnà. Ire gbogbo wá yá dé tùtúru.

It did not take long; it was not far away. Every good thing came flooding in to arrive plentifully.

Èrò Ìpo, èrò Ọ̀fà, nẹ̀jẹ̀ ẹ̀yin kò mò pé bí ẹni kò bá şişẹ, ẹni kì ìlà?

Travelers to *Ìpo* town, travelers to *Ọ̀fà* town, do you not know that if one does not happen to do work, then one never prospers?

Extra: [a saying from Booker Taliaferro Washington Sr.] Nothing ever comes to one, that is worth having, except as a result of hard work.

Ọ̀sẹ̀ Ọ̀fún

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15.16 *Ọ̀sẹ̀* (overcoming trouble) is helped by *Ọ̀fún* (acting with rectitude).

Bí orí kò sunwòn, oḡbòn inú nì kò ìtò. Oḡbòn m̀bẹ̀ nínú Èlà, amú ayé gún, atún orí tí kò sunwòn ẹ̀.

If luck is not good, then it is inner wisdom (that is, the ability to discern what is right or true and to judge soundly) that is not yet enough. Wisdom is in *Èlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom), the one who causes the world to be right, the one who improves luck that is not good.

A dífá fún àwọn ‘Kò mò ẹ̀; kò mò wà’, tí ifi ojojúmọ̀ kégbe orí àìsunwòn, pé Èlédàá ti ẹ̀ tiwọn n’ìbì. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ̀. Wọn gbọ̀; wọn rúbọ̀.

Ifá divination was performed for those of ‘He does not know what to do; he does not know how to be’, who were using every day to shout out about inauspiciousness and that *Èlédàá* (Creator God) had done their affairs in with bad things. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹ̀bọ̀*. They heard; they did *ẹ̀bọ̀*.

A ní kí apákan wọn sì lọ tẹ́fá. Bí wọn bá tẹ́fá tán, kí wọn kọ Ifá. A ní: “Èni ‘Kò mò ẹ̀; kò mò wà’ tí ó kọ Ifá, orí rẹ̀ óò sunwòn nígbèyìn.”

It was said that one side of them ought moreover to go get initiated into *Ifá*. If they happen to have gotten initiated into *Ifá* completely, then they ought to learn *Ifá*. It was said: “A person of ‘He does not know what to do; he does not know how to be’ who learns *Ifá*, his luck will be good at last.”

Ẹ̀bọ̀: Fí aṣọ funfun, ọ̀ṣẹ̀, àtí ẹ̀gbẹ̀wá owó. Fí ọ̀jọ̀ m̀éta fún wíwẹ̀. Lẹ̀yìn tí o fí ọ̀ṣẹ̀ wẹ̀, fí aṣọ-ìbora funfun bora.

An *ẹ̀bọ̀*: Use white clothing (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness), soap, and money worth 2000 cowries. Use 3 days for cleansing yourself. After you use the soap to cleanse yourself, use the white clothing to cover (your) body.

Extra: **1.** [The Bible, Proverbs 19:3] Waywardness of a person undermines his way, but with *Ha’el* (God) is his heart angry. **2.** [The Bible, Proverbs 22:4] As a consequence of humility (and) reverence for *Ha’el* (God) are wealth and honor and life.

A16 Òfún as the right leg

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[Òfún Ogbè](#)

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16.01 Òfún (acting with rectitude) helps Ogbè (a wholesome road).

Egúngún kan kì íṣe ẹ̀ni. Òrìṣà kan kì író èyàn. Àṣiṣe nìkan l'ó lé ẹ̀ni lórò.

Egúngún (honorable ancestors) never damage a person. *Òrìṣà* (divine ministerial agents) never cause a human being pain. It is mistakes (that is, wrong actions, beliefs, or judgments) alone that compel us to utter a very painful cry.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 22:5] Thorns (and) snares are in the path of a wayward one; one who watches over his spirit will be far from them.

Òfún Òyèkú

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16.02 Òfún (acting with rectitude) helps Òyèkú (averting ruin; not missing out on bright possibilities).

Amò-ọ̀ṣẹ́-má-tẹ́, awo Ìsimi-bà-kalẹ́, l'ó dífá fún Ìsimi-bà-kalẹ́, aní-má-ṣawun, afi ojojúmọ́ fún ẹ̀ni ní jìjẹ àti mímu, ọ̀rẹ́ onílẹ́, ọ̀rẹ́ àlẹjò. Ó ní: “Bí ebi bá ńpa ọ, kí o yá wá jẹun. Bí ọ̀ngbẹ́ bá ńgbẹ ọ, kí o yá wá mu.”

‘One who knows hurt but does not fall into disgrace’, the priest of ‘Rest and settle down’, who performed *Ifá* divination for ‘Rest and settle down’, the one who possesses but is not stingy, the one who uses each day to give to us in eating and drinking, a friend of the householder, a friend of the stranger. He said: “If hunger happens to be overwhelming you, then you ought to be quick to come eating. If thirst happens to be dehydrating you, then you ought to be quick to come drinking.”

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́ kí ó má baà kú, kí ó má baà tẹ́. Kí ó sì ràn ara rẹ́ lówọ́ kí ó tó ràn ẹ̀lòmí lówọ́. A ní bí ó bá rúbọ́ tán, kí ó maa fi ìgbà yẹra fún ọ̀mọ́ aráyé. Kí ó maa fi ìgbà kan lọ s'óko. Kí ó maa fi ìgbà míràn ràjò. Kí ó maa ṣoore fún àwọn olùpọ̀njú. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may not die, so that he may not fall into disgrace. He ought moreover to render help to himself before he reaches the point of rendering help to someone else. It was said that if he happened to do *ẹbọ* completely, then he ought to be using some time to avoid people of the world. He ought to be using one time to go to the

farm. He ought to be using another time to go on a journey. He ought to keep doing kindly acts for the poor. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Ẹbọ: Fi oyin, aṣọ méré, àti ọkẹ méré owó.

An *ẹbọ*: Use honey (which is used to sweeten a situation), 4 pieces of cloth, and money worth 80000 cowries.

Extra: [*Dilogún* 10-2] Take care of yourself before others.

Òfún Ìwòrì

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16.03 *Òfún* (acting with rectitude) helps *Ìwòrì* (good things becoming seen).

Òfún l'awo Ìgándó. Ìwòrì l'awo Ìgándò. Ọrò gándò-gándò kì ítán n'íkùn àgbà bọrọbọrọ.

It was *Òfún* who was the priest of *Ìgándó*. It was *Ìwòrì* who was the priest of *Ìgándò*. A troubling matter does not come to an end in the mind of an elder very easily.

A dífá fún Ẹni-ọwọ, tí íṣe ọmọ Ẹlà. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ṣe ibọ fún Ẹlà àti Ẹṣù. Báyii ni yóò ṣeṣgun ọtá. Báyii ni yóò rí ẹyìn òdídí.

Ifá divination was performed for 'Person of respect', who was a child of *Ẹlà* (the *òrìṣà* of knowledge and wisdom). It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for *Ẹlà* and *Ẹṣù* (the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests). It was in this manner that he would overcome opponents. It was in this manner that he would see the back side of blockages.

Ẹ fí ọwọ mi wọ mi. Ọwọ kókó l'a fí í wọ igi. Ọwọ Ọrìṣànlá l'a fí í wọ àfín. Ẹ fí ọwọ mi wọ mi.

Use the respect due to me to put on me. It is respect for knobs that we use to put on a tree. It is respect for *Ọrìṣànlá* (the *òrìṣà* of moral sense) that we use to put on an albino. Give me due respect.

Òfún Òdí

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16.04 *Òfún* (acting with rectitude) hinders *Òdí* (blockage or enemies).

Òfún dí ire mọ. Wàrà gbà ṣe wàrà kì Òfún má baà pa ẹni.

Òfún blocks good things to be restricted (to himself). Quickly receive and act quickly so that *Òfún* may not finish us off.

A dífá fún Olórí-ògá. A ní ẹni tí ó dí ire mọ ilé, kì írí t'òde gbà.

Ifá divination was performed for Chief-of-chiefs. It was said that the person who blocks good things to be restricted to home, he never sees anything from outside to receive. [Note: Restricting good things to oneself could mean that one keeps good things to himself or that one falsely believes that he alone has something worthy to offer].

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí ire baà lè ṣàn wá ilé.

It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that good things may be able to flow and come home.

Extra: Be open to giving help to others and to accepting help from others.

Òfún Ìrosùn

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16.05 Òfún (acting with rectitude) helps Ìrosùn (patiently persevering through difficulty).

Òfún nfún ire ká. Òfún kò pariwo. Èyàn bí irú yìí ẹ ọwọn l'ayé. Ẹni tí yòò maa dáṣà, kí ó wò ịse ọrun. Ọrun ni ilé ọlá.

Òfún is giving out good things to go all around. Òfún does not make a noise (about it). People like this type are scarce in the world. A person who will be daring to do something, he ought to look at the customs of heaven. It is heaven that is the home of honor.

A dífá fún àwọn èyàn. A ní ikú ọò maa mú wọn lọ wò ịse ọrun.

Ifá divination was performed for human beings. It was said that death would be taking them to go look at the customs of heaven. [Note: The preceding statement tells us that pondering one's eventual bodily death brings one to consider the degree to which one has complied with the dictates of heaven].

A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ kí ó má baà sí òkùnkùn àti ibanújé l'ọ̀nà wọn. Wọn kò; wọn kò rúbọ.

It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that there may not be darkness and disheartening sadness on their road. They refused; they did not do *ẹbọ*.

Extra: **1.** Act out of genuine concern for others. **2.** [The Bible, Proverbs 16:20] One who gives attention to divine instruction will attain to what is good, and one who puts trust in *Ha'el* (God), how blessed is he!

Òfún Ọwọ̀nrín

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16.06a Òfún (acting with rectitude) helps Ọwọ̀nrín (walking honorably).

Message: [*Dilogún* 10-11] No matter how much the wind may blow, the sun does not stray from its proper course.

16.06b Òfún (acting with rectitude) helps Ọwọ̀nrín (walking honorably).

Òfún fún wọn kẹ. Òfún fún wọn ọ́.

Òfún gives to them to pamper (them). Òfún gives to them to watch over (them).

A dífá fún Odùduwà, tí yòò maa ọ̀ore ká rí ayé. Ó ní ị̀soore ká rí ayé l'ó dáràjù n'íwà.

Ifá divination was performed for *Odùduwà* (a deified *Yorùbá* king), who would be doing kindly acts around the world. He said that it is doing kindly acts around the world that is superior in character.

A ní apákan kò ní dúpẹ́ fún ọ̀ore l'ọ̀wọ́ rẹ. Àwọn mírán kò tilẹ́ ní mọ́ tiwọn ilò. Sùgbón ó ní bàbá ọ̀mọ́ kò lẹ́ ẹ́ kí ó má fí ohun rere fún ọ̀mọ́. Àti iyá ọ̀mọ́ kò lẹ́ ẹ́ kí ó má fí ohun rere fún ọ̀mọ́.

It was said that one side would not give thanks for the kindness from his hands. Those of another (side) would not even know their use. But he said that the father of a child is unable to not put good things for the child. And the mother of a child is unable to not put good things for the child.

A ní kí Odùduwà wá rúbọ́ kí ohun rere gbogbo tí ifi fún èyàn, bí wọn bá fi ẹ̀ ọ̀fò l'áyé, kí ó baà lè maa tún padà tọ́ Odùduwà lẹ́wọ́. Ó gbọ́; ó rúbọ́.

It was said that *Odùduwà* ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that every good thing that he was putting for human beings, if they happened to waste it in the world, then it may be able to always return to touch *Odùduwà* in his hands. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Extra: [The Bible, Proverbs 3:27] You ought not to withhold what is good from its owners (that is, those to whom it is due), in that it has come to be in the power of your hand to do (it).

Òfún Òkànràn

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16.08 *Òfún* (efforts of limited success) helps *Òkànràn* (touching trouble).

Òfún rànìnrànyìn l'ó dífá fún Àkàtànpo nígbà tí írán ẹ̀fọ́n, àwọn ọ̀mọ rẹ̀, rẹ̀ igbó. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ́. A ní kí ó sì wá ẹ̀ ẹ̀pèsè. Ó falẹ́.

It was '*Òfún* persistently' who performed *Ifá* divination for Catapult when he was sending arrows, his children, to go to the forest. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. It was said that he ought moreover to come doing *ẹ̀pèsè*. He procrastinated.

Olúigbó wá mú ọ̀mọ Àkàtànpo s'ọ̀hún. Njẹ́, àlọ l'a rí; a kò rí àbọ́ mọ́ o! Gbogbo wọn tí rá o!

Olúigbó (the spirit of the forest) came taking Catapult's children to (his) place. Therefore, it was the departure that we saw; we did not see the return anymore! All of them have disappeared!

Ìpèsè: Fi òkété pèsè fún ẹ̀lẹ́yẹ.

An *ẹ̀pèsè*: Use a giant rat to provide for *ẹ̀lẹ́yẹ* (bird-people, a nickname of psychic agents).

Extra: A great investment of effort does not guarantee sought returns.

Òfún Ògúndá

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16.09 *Òfún* (acting with rectitude) is helped by *Ògúndá* (having the courage to take right action).

Igún kii ẹ̀ ọ̀lọ̀dì ẹ̀nikan. Kò ẹ̀ à bá wọn nájà.

The vulture is never the possessor of ill will (toward) someone. It will not fail to join them (others) in doing market business (that is, it will eat anyone's corpse).

Ifá ní ẹ̀nikan wà tí kí ó má bá ẹ̀ wọn l'ódì. Kí olúwarẹ́ wá rúbọ́ kí ó baà lè ẹ̀ ẹ̀tọ́.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought not to treat them (others) with ill will. The person in question ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that he may be able to do what is right.

Extra: Do not treat another unjustly, regardless of whether you have been wronged or not.

Òfún Ọsá

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16.10 Òfún (efforts of limited success) is hindered by Ọsá (taking timely action).

Òfún sà wò bí yóò jẹ, bí kò ní jẹ.

Òfún applies medicine and looks at whether it will work or whether it will not work.

A dífá fún àrúnlọjọ ewé. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ kí ìhalẹ má baà tẹ wọn. Èyítí ó rúbọ l'àwọn ewé tí a fi ẹ oògùn tí ó jẹ.

Ifá divination was performed for 165 leaves. It was said that they ought to come doing ẹbọ so that empty boasts may not humiliate them. It is the ones that did ẹbọ that are the leaves that we use to make medicine that works.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ kí ọrọ tí ó dífá sí í, ó baà lè dára jálẹ. Báyyì ní olúwarẹ oò sà agbára sí ohun tí ó múnádóko. Báyyì ní ojú kò ní tí í nípa ọrọ náà.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing ẹbọ so that the matter for which he cast Ifá, it may be able to be good throughout. It is in this manner that the person in question will apply (his) energy to a thing that is effective. It is in this manner that shame will not come over him regarding the aforementioned matter.

Extra: By discerning what is genuine from what is not, one will be able to apply an effective remedy to a bad situation.

Òfún Òtúrúpòn

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16.12 Òfún (acting with rectitude) helps Òtúrúpòn (being productive).

Èlà, ẹ dí ọ̀nà ikú fún ọmọ ẹ. Ifá l'ó wá dá ewé olùdínà tẹmì. Ifá, ọ̀nà ikú ní kí ẹ dí í.

Èlà (the ọ̀rìṣà of knowledge and wisdom), block the road of death for your child. It is Ifá who comes bringing forth my own road-blocking leaves. Ifá, it is the road of death that you ought to block.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí olúwarẹ sì wá ẹ ibọ fún Èlà, asọ-ọ̀rọ-di-ayọ. Báyyì ní kò ní itọ ọ̀nà tí kò sunwọn.

Ifá says that there is someone who ought to come doing ẹbọ. The person in question ought moreover to come doing ibọ for Èlà, the one who converts trouble into joy. It is in this manner that he will not follow a road that is not good.

Àkóse Ifá: Gún ewé idí àti ọ̀ṣẹ pọ fún wíwẹ.

Ifá medicine: Pound idí leaves (*Terminalia schimperiana*: used to block negative pathways) and soap to be together for cleansing yourself.

Òfún Òtúrá

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16.13a Òfún (acting with rectitude) helps Òtúrá (averting a worrisome situation).

Kí iwọ tọ ọwọ wò. Kí èmi tọ ọwọ wò.

May you taste honor. May I taste honor.

A dífá fún Ọmọ-Òrìṣànlá, tí irè ayé àpèsìn. A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. Ó sì ẹ̀ ibọ fún Òrìṣànlá, bàntà-banta nínú àlà. Bááyí ni yóò mú iwà rere hù.

Ifá divination was performed for Ọmọ-Òrìṣànlá (child of Òrìṣànlá, the òrìṣà of moral sense), who was going to the world of leaders. It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*. He moreover did *ibọ* for Òrìṣànlá, the immense one in white clothing (which symbolizes the effort to maintain cleanness). It was in this manner that he would take good character to develop.

Kò pẹ; kò jìnnà. Ẹ wá bá ẹni ní jẹbútú ire.

It will not take long; it is not far away. Come join us in plenty of good things.

Extra: By being decent and sincere, one will inspire others to follow one's example of honor.

16.13b Ọfún (acting with rectitude) helps Ọtúrá (averting a worrisome situation).

Òfún tọ epo lá. Òfún fi ọlẹlẹ bọ iyọ. Òfún nńwá ohun tí ó dùn jẹ.

Ọfún touched palm oil to lick. *Ọfún* caused a red-bean cake to fall (into) salt. *Ọfún* was looking for things that are delicious to eat.

A dífá fún Èṣù, tí ilọ gbé Epo n'iyàwó. A ní kí wọn wá rúbọ kí wọn má yà ara wọn láílái. Wọn gbọ; wọn rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for Èṣù (the òrìṣà of opportunity and crossroads tests), who went taking Palm-oil as a wife. It was said that they ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that they might not ever separate from each other. They heard; they did *ẹbọ*.

Extra: Described here is a bond between two persons or things that is as strong as marriage.

Òfún Ìrẹtẹ

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16.14a Ọfún (acting with rectitude) helps Ìrẹtẹ (making one's mark). *Ọfún* (acting with rectitude) is helped by Ìrẹtẹ (practicing *Ifá*).

Wọn tẹ mi. Mo tún ara mi tẹ.

They (others) initiated me. I initiated myself again. [Note: Here is someone who sees his spiritual initiation as a commitment to God].

A dífá fún Olú-ṣe-ẹsọ. A ní: “Èyítí ó sunwọn fún ayé ni yóò maa wù Olú-ṣe-ẹsọ látí ẹ.” A ní kí ó wá rúbọ kí àwọn ọmọ aráyé baà maa bù iyí fún un. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ.

Ifá divination was performed for ‘Chief exercises gentleness’. It was said: “It is that which is good for the world that will keep pleasing ‘Chief exercises gentleness’ to do.” It was said that he ought to come doing *ẹbọ* so that people of the world may be portioning out respect to him. He heard; he did *ẹbọ*.

Àkóse Ifá: Gbo ewé àgbáyun àti ewé ayínrẹ sínú omi. Fi omi yìí fún wíwẹ orí rẹ.

Ifá medicine: Juice àgbáyun leaves (*Synsepalum dulcificum*: used to make sour things sweet) and ayínrẹ leaves (*Albizia adianthifolia*: used to dispel negative energy) into water. Use this water for cleansing your head.

Extra: One's well-intended efforts may not get the reception that they deserve.

16.14b Òfún (acting with rectitude) hinders Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀ (unwholesome influences).

Nkan tí ó ẹ̀ni l'ẹ̀ẹ̀kan, kò gbòdò tún ẹ̀ni l'ẹ̀ẹ̀kẹ̀jì.

A thing that damages us one time, it must not again damage us a second time.

Extra: Do not allow something bad to affect you repeatedly.

Òfún Ọ̀ṣẹ̀

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16.15a Òfún (efforts of limited success) is hindered by Ọ̀ṣẹ̀ (overcoming through joyful optimism).

Àbùkù odò l'ó di àbàtà.

It is the disgrace of a river that it becomes a swamp.

A dífá fún Àbọ̀n-nù nígbà tí ọ̀mọ aráyé ñrò ó pin. Ó ti di arúgbó àti tálákà. Wọn ńsọ pé kò ní láárí. Wọn níí í ẹ̀lẹ̀yà.

Ifá divination was performed for 'Unripe palm fruit is lost' when people of the world were writing him off. He had become an old person and a poor person. They (others) were saying that he did not have importance. They were using him to make ridicule.

A ní kí ó wá ẹ̀ ọ̀bọ fún Èlà, alátúnṣe ayé, aso-òrò-di-ayọ. Bá yíí ni yóò lẹ̀ gbilẹ̀. Bá yíí ni wọn ọ̀ò wá bù ọ̀lá fún un. Ó gbọ; ó ẹ̀ ọ̀bọ.

It was said that he ought to come doing ọ̀bọ for Èlà (the òrìṣà of knowledge and wisdom), the master of improving one's life in the world, the one who converts trouble into joy. It was in this manner that he would be able to flourish. It was in this manner that they (others) would come portioning out honor to him. He heard; he did ọ̀bọ.

Extra: *Ifá* will help you to develop your life potential.

16.15b Òfún (acting with rectitude) helps Ọ̀ṣẹ̀ (overcoming trouble).

Òfún kò ẹ̀. Òfún kò rò. Wọn ńdúnrunmọ Òfún.

Òfún did not sin. Òfún did not scheme. They (others) were falsely accusing Òfún.

A dífá fún Òfún, èyítí ó ẹ̀ rere tán, ẹ̀gbọ̀n wọn dì ẹ̀rù ibi lé e.

Ifá divination was performed for Òfún, the one who did good things completely, but they (others) tied the load of bad things on him.

A ní kí ó wá rúbọ. Ó gbọ; ó rúbọ. A ẹ̀ àkóse Ifá fún un. Ó níí í rò orí sùn.

It was said that he ought to come doing ẹ̀bọ. He heard; he did ẹ̀bọ. *Ifá* medicine was made for him. He was using it to pillow (his) head to sleep.

Oore ni mo ẹ. Kí ó má di ọ̀ràn s'ọ̀rùn fún mi.

It is an act of goodness that I do. May it not become a 'pain in the neck' for me.

Extra: Righteously persevere regardless of how others may respond to your good deeds.

Òfún Méjì

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16.16 *Òfún* (efforts of limited success) is doubled.

Àsoore àìṣetán ni íjẹ̀ mélòóríyìn.

It is doing acts of goodness incompletely that is enjoying not many compliments.

Ifá ní ẹnìkan wà tí íṣoore. Ṣùgbọ̀n kí ó ẹ́ tán kí ó má ẹ́ ọ̀ràn tí yóò ẹ́ àbàwọ̀n s'órúkọ rẹ. Kí ó wá rúbọ. Kí ó sì wá ẹ́ ibọ̀ fún Èṣù.

Ifá says that there is someone who is doing acts of goodness. But he ought to do things to completion so that he does not make matters that would make a stain blemish on his name. He ought to come doing *ẹbọ*. He ought moreover to come doing *ibọ* for *Èṣù* (the *òrìṣà* of opportunity and crossroads tests).

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