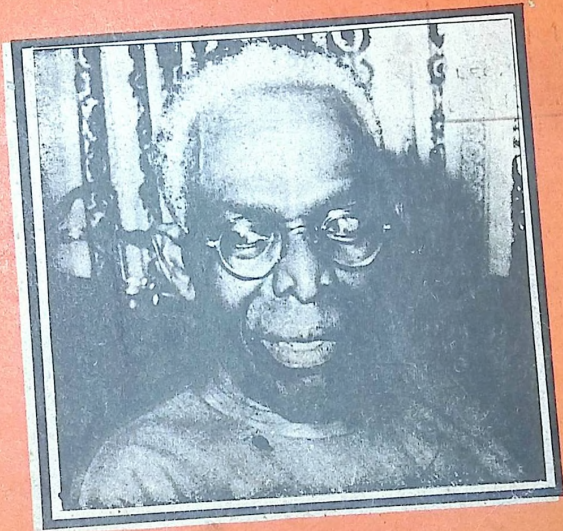


PAPA AWO

Steve and Nancy Elidaf



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After the death of Chief Obafemi Awolowo, mountains of literature were produced for the Nigerian public.

But none as a matter of fact was directed to the Nigerian child.

It is this noticeable void that *Papa Awo* has attempted to fill.

Papa Awo is the story of the life and death of the great colossus, Awo. It is written in simple and straightforward English, meant for children of pre-primary and primary classes.

We hope that your children would enjoy reading this story and at the same time improve their reading skills.

Steve and Nancy Elidaf

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PAPA AWO

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This is Papa Awo.

The full name of Papa Awo is Chief Obafemi Jeremiah Oyeniyi Awolowo. But many people called him Awo. Papa Awo was born on Saturday 6th of March 1909.

The hometown of Papa Awo is Ikenne. Ikenne is a small town in the Remo Local Government Area of Ogun State.



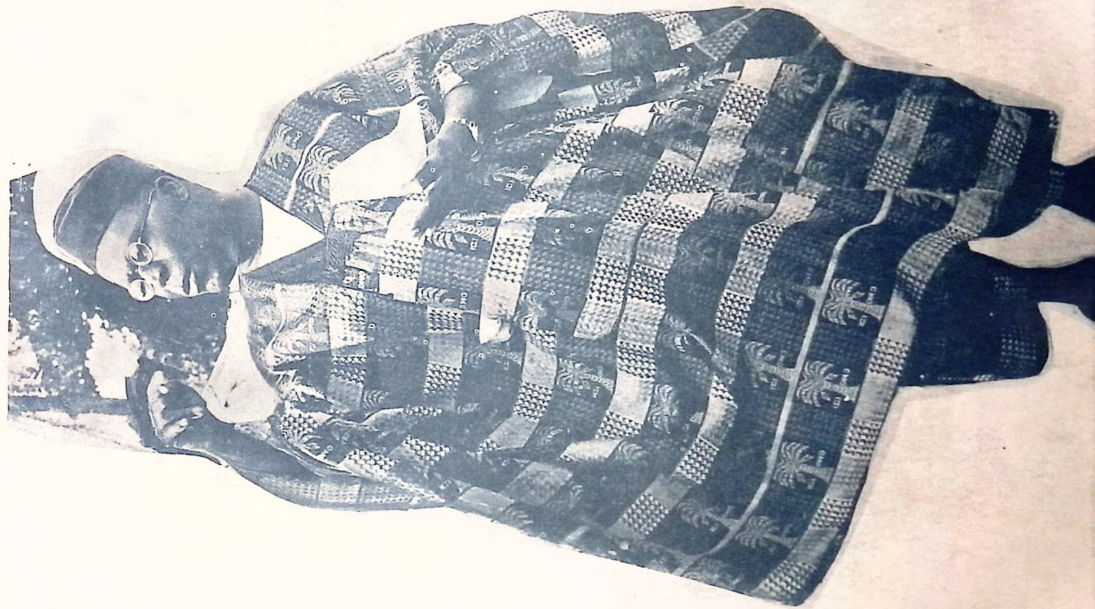
When Papa Awo was a small boy, he was very poor, but he went to school and faced his studies. He passed all his examinations.

Papa Awo became a lawyer. He fought for Nigeria to become an Independent Country.

Papa Awo became premier of the former Western Region. The former Western Region is now Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Bendel and Oyo States.

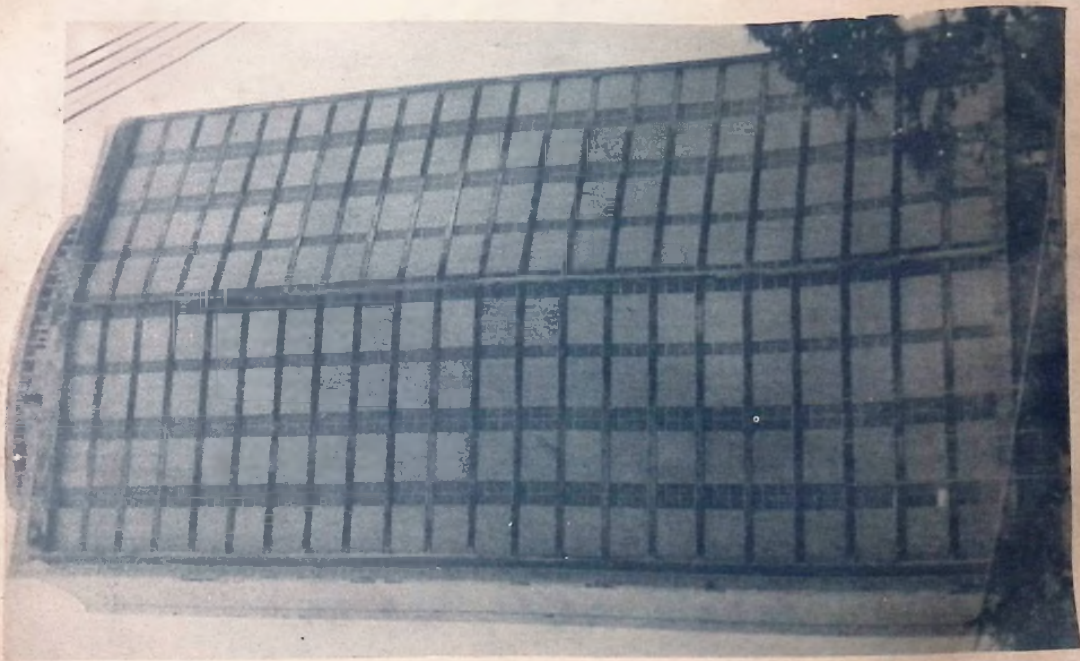


When Papa Awo was premier of Western Region, he said that Children in primary school should not pay school fees. He wanted every child to go to school whether he is poor or he is rich.



Papa Awo built the first big Stadium in Nigeria.
The Stadium is called Liberty Stadium.
It is in Ibadan, which is the largest city in West Africa.

He built the first Television Station in Africa.
The Television station was called WNTV. It is now called NTA
Ibadan. He also built the famous cocoa house in Ibadan.
He founded the University of Ife. University of Ife is in Ile-Ife.



On 26 December 1937, Papa Awo got married to Hannah Dideolu. They had five children. Papa Awo and his wife were very happy together. They lived together for 50 years before Papa Awo died.

Papa Awo wanted to be the President of Nigeria. He tried three times but he was not able to become the president.

Because of the good things that Papa Awo did in Nigeria, he was given the highest national award. The award is called Grand Commander of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. (GCFR).



Before Papa Awo died, many people liked him. Because Papa did not become President, he was not able to do all the other good things that he wanted to do for Nigeria.

On the 9th of May 1987, Papa Awo died in his hometown, Ikenne. He was 78 years old when he died. Nigerians were very sad when they heard that Papa has died. Many people remembered the beautiful things that he did. Before Papa Awo died, he said that people should not cry when he dies, but they should be happy because he is going to heaven.



After papa died, the government of Nigeria changed the name of University of Ife to Obafemi Awolowo University. This is to honour Papa so that everybody would continue to remember his name and the good things that he did.

The government of Nigeria gave Papa Awo a State burial. This means that it is the government that buried Papa. The coffin was covered with the National Flag, because Papa was a National Hero.

The burial of Papa Awo was the best burial that any Nigerian ever had.

So, children this is the story of Papa Awolowo's life. Papa Awolowo was a great man. We must all try to help our country so that we can be as great as Papa Awo.

Papa Awo is about the life and death of Chief Obafemi Awolowo as a family man, a politician, but above all as a great Nigerian.

It is written specifically for children of pre-primary and primary classes.

