Man's Unconquerable Mind

ORIZU POEMS VOL 1

A. A. Nwafor Orizu

BLE

MAN'S UNCONQUERABLE

MIND

r Orizu

MAN'S UNCONQUERABLE MIND

Orizu Poems Volume 1

A.A. Nwafor Orizu

ISBN — 978—166—043—0

© Copyright 1986
A.A. Nwafor Orizu (Nnewi)

All rights in this book are reserved. It may not be used for Dramatic, motion-or Talking-picture, Radio or Television purposes without authorisation from the holder of these rights. No part of the book may be reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission, except in the case of brief quotation embodied with critical article review.

Printed in Nigeria
by
Jos University Press Ltd.

DEDICATION

I dedicate this first volume of my poems "Man's Unconquerable Mind" to my very dear mother Her Royal Highness Serrah Ejeagwunobi Onyeucheanu Ugoabo Orizu. It is her unconquerable mind that moulded and fashioned my life. She has everything that any real person needs to be a conqueror in this world that is beset with contradictions, hinderances, oppressions, and conspiracies. As a baby, I grew to see her brush aside any suggestions that any thing is impossible; that there is any person to be feared; that conspiracy and oppression can hinder her progress; that rain or sunshine can stop her from farm work. She has always said to me in Igbo: "Nwoke ada agbalu ibe ya oso" - meaning 'a man never yields cowardly to another man' and "Ogbu nma gbukata nma ya muo aka mgba maka nma adanaru ya" - meaning 'if you are used to fighting an enemy with sword, make sure you practice wrestling with your hands lest your sword falls away from you.'

These two parables from my mother are the two cornerstones that made my mind impregnable to threats, and unaffected by sudden change of furtune and I believe that that is what is meant by 'an unconquerable Mind' of man"

Her Highness Madam Serrah Ejeagwunobi Orizu (to whom this book is dedicated) seated, standing by her side are her son, the author from tennis court and her grand daughter.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Most of these poems were dictated while I was in the bath tub, in bed, in a moving car or plane and even while dancing or when tired and relaxed restfully in a chair with my eyes closed. Only a very few of the poems have I taken time to put down in my own handwriting. It is therefore necessary to express my gratitude to my daughters Udunna, Ejeagwu, Oziora, Enunyelum, Chisolu and Chinasa and my wife Lady Odoziaku who at one time or another took the dictation and got it typed for my files. Some of them have developed great interest in poetry writing and one of them Ejeagwu has really won a Malex Foundation Gold Medal for poetry in this country.

I sincerely trust that their devotion will enable them to be better authors tomorrow.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION ONE: WAY OF LIFE

Introductory Note 1
1. The Unconquerable Mind of Man 4
2. Isolation 5
3. The Humble Man 6
4. Tyrany of Freedom 8
5. Ingratitude My Friend 10
6. Do More 11
7. Knowledge 12
8. False World 13
9. Do Not Hurt Yourself 14
10. The Birth of Jealousy 15
11. Nothing Is Impossible 16
12. Try Again 17
13. Narrow Path 18
14. Do Not Be Afraid 19
15. Against Optimism 20
16. Money and Power 21
17. My Life At Best 22
18. Man: Self Contradiction 23
19. Faithful Men 24
20. How to Be Happy 26
21. Assurance of Peace 27
22. Be Natural 27
23. I am Proud 28
24. Clean Thoughts 30
25. Fairness 31
26. Routine 32
27. Be a Gentleman 33
28. Do Not Blame Yourself 34
29. Will You Give Him Chance? 35
30. Room On Top 37
31. Acceptance 38

32. Live Inside Your Life 40
33. Temptation 41
34. The Birth of Truth 43
35. The Moulded Edifice 44

SECTION TWO: NATIONALISM

Introductory Note 46
1. Looking For A Nation 47
2. Mother Nigeria 47
3. Araba Tree 48
4. Romance of July 50
5. Benin 52
6. Nigeria's Sons 53
7. Tribe 54
8. Go To Jos 56

SECTION THREE: PAN AFRICANISM

Introductory Note 58
1. Nkrumah My Nkruman 59
2. Freedom In Zimbabwe 60
3. God Of Africa Return 61
4. Give Me A Black Man 63

SECTION FOUR: RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Introductory Note 65
1. Without The Living God 66
2. What Shall I Do For My God 67
3. The Good Will Win 68
4. Mother's Day 69

5. Morning Devotion 70
6. Lonely Bird 71
7. One Companion 72
8. My Hidden Powers 73
9. Gratitude To God The Creator 73
10. God's Harvest 73
11. The Ungodly 74
12. Personal Prayers 75
13. The Gifts I Want 76
14. Toward Calvary 77
15. The Unconquerable Minds 78

PROLOGUE

THE VOICE OF GOD

Voices of men exclaim their moods
Voices of birds predict romances
Vulgarity in the voices of fools
All these voices have one thing in common
They all pass away
They all vanish for good
At the touch of wicked time
And the ruch of merciless
But the voice of god remains unchanged
When God speaks through his men
Any utterance that makes history
Any prophesy that out-lives time
Are the voices of God through his men

This poetry I am setting today
The month of March, the 26th day
A thousand years plus 986
In God's village, my present abode
Are words of God, I never create
The messages I got when fully possessed
I humbly submit they are not my own
But I am proud to say I know their source
From Africa's God, the universal father
From secret reflections of ancient heroes
In tropical Africa ever hot and wet
In royal atmosphere of Ugbonyamba's palace
This humble piece is a voice from beyond

Date: March 26, 1986
Time: 5.40 - 5.45 p.m.
Place: Office Upstairs

THE GIFTS I WANT

God give me
Not much of life
But much of living
Not much of talent
But much of achieving
Not much of love
But much of loving
Not much of a wife
But much of a companion
Not much of a son
But much of a believer
Not much of wealth
But much of health

Date: April 28, 1979
Place: Under Araba Tree, O C H

SECTION ONE

WAY OF LIFE

In this section, Prince Orizu in all simplicity expresses those ideas which enabled him to attain the height he jealously maintains.

He reflects on the value of man as ordinary flesh and blood in the Poem "Man the Moulded Edifice". He condemns excessive pursuit of and trust in money and power in his poem "Money and Power". His belief in truth is expressed in the poem "The Birth of Truth". The satisfaction he derives in rendering service to humanity even when misunderstood, finds eloquence in the poem "My Life at Best." These are inspiring philosophies of life for the prospective, ambitious and progressive minds.

THE UNCONQUERABLE MIND OF MAN

Man's unconquerable mind
Encaged in a box of steel
On cross with rope to bind
Like rock it stands still

Man's unconquerable mind
Drowned by waves and storms
Vandals and pirates abound
Yet the mind continues to perform

Give me Africa's son
With that unconquerable mind
To stand the heat of sun
And break the chains that bind

Give me Africa's son
With that unconquerable mind
The life's road to run
To obey his nation's command

Date: August 11, 1982
Time: 6.15 - 6.35 a.m.
Place: Room 667 Federal Palace Suite, Lagos.

ISOLATION

Isolate a great mind,
You elevate him
You inspire him
You push him to a great force
The force of God
The wisdom in nature
The secrets of the universe
Will embrace his soul

Isolate a great mind
Treat him with cruelty
Deny his achievement
Insult his intergrity
Question his ability
Then you feed him well
With inspiration
With defiance

Isolate a great mind
Give him undue punishment
For the things he believes in
For the principles he preaches
For ideals he propagates
You make him restive
You endorse a revolution
From an unconquerable mind

Date: May 8, 1986
Time: 8.05 a.m.
Place: Office Upstairs

THE HUMBLE MAN

You the humble evasive man
You elude the ignorant
You confuse the superficial
You have a hidden force
Only the eyes of wisdom can see
And the sense of intelligence perceive

A humble man has a giant mind
He knows his goal and gets there
Inspite of violent and cunning men
Inspite of conspirators and wealthy few
He listens to truth and abides by it
He performs miracles without noise

He conquers a nation without violence
He changes society without proclamation
He humiliates his enemies with gentle touches
You nail him on the cross
He begs you be forgiven
With your own hand you hang yourself

He allows the kings to impoverish him
While vandals destroy the palaces
He allows himself to be called a thief
Centuries after he becomes a saint
He goes naked and looks hungry
And yet for many a source of life

Humble man, I am afraid of you
Afraid of you not for wickedness
But because I know your brothers, all
Gandhi of India, He is one
He broke an empire with a walking stick
And without a word a nation was built

Christ of Nazareth, He is one
Born in a manger as if a lamb
Fathered by a carpenter without a penny
Pilate of Rome sent Him on cross
But now a King in Basilica Rome
And that is the joy of your Christmas

Here you enjoy your Christmas today
Look around your village and town at once
Try to locate a humble man
Not in the Church or by the alter
But by the sacrifices you know He makes
Then, look for Christ around his home

Look for a man condemned by many
Unfairly isolated by jealous cliques
Although He labours to save them all
Giving them ladder to climb their hieghts
Without reward from any of them
Because He is a humble man

While enjoying this Christmas day
Try to join the humble men
In a world that calls for peace and love
Make humility your golden fleece
For humble men have power of the mind
To live forever when the proud is gone

Date: August 11, 1982
Place: In the Bathroom

TYRANNY OF FREEDOM

Freedom is really a Tyrant
Its dormain is totalitarian
It leaves no room for alternative
It calls for discipline
It demands vigilance
It invites sacrifice
It insists on industry
It is commander-In-Chief of attention
It is mercilessly exacting
It imposes responsibility

Freedom is a vagabond
It has no home, it has no brothers
It is not in love with anyone

It does not respect anyone
It does not need anyone
It moves like wind
It sweeps away opponents
And sends to ruins, the stubborn
It is not a friend
It is not a companion
It is an executor
Whose guillotine in his hands
Summons courage at once
To cut the head of anyone
Who stands on his way
Yes, I say that freedom is a tyrant

As soon as you claim your freedom
Your chain is forged for you
For freedom and chain are twins
Two brothers that work together
To face the fools of men
Who think that freedom is free
When really freedom is chain

When nation aclaims its freedom
The bond of chains is forged
They dwell from hands to mouths
To make the freedom work
When man marries for freedom
The marriage has its chains
The chains that freedom demands
They stay together at once
Without the freedom to move
And yet they think they are free
Indeed freedom is a tyrant

Date: Sunday August 10, 1981

INGRATITUDE – MY FRIEND

Ingratitude the greatest foe for many
But my most faithful friend than any
Many indict and abhore your role
But my success in life you extol
To Caeser's life and soul you were a doom
To me and my house you are a boom
Your message to men is distress
Your message to me is success
But for ingratutide, I would have failed
It is for ingratutude I was jailed
My area of conquest was enlarged
Although in the court I was charged
Ingratitude pushed me away from slumber
Then among the great I am a member
Ingratitude fed me with wisdom
And drove me to the edge of freedom
In this mortal life I salute you
Ingratitude my best friend

Date: July 7, 1982

Place: God's Village, Nnewi.

DO MORE

If you love your brothers
And they hate you
Love them more
If you serve your sisters
And they deny it all
Serve them more
If you enrich the poor
And they disrespect you
Enrich them more
If you educate the people
And they forget you
Educate them more
If you encourage your friends
And they disappoint you
Encourage them more
If you work for your country
And some discredit you
Serve her more
Just do more if you can
And never less
At the close of every day
Bend your knees
Raise your hands
And face the heaven
Open your heart and pray to God
Give your account as you do more
Say to your God in a solemn tone
I have been hated, I did not hate
Give me love
I have been rejected, I did not reject
Accept me
I have been discarded, without discarding
Count me in
If God is with you

You are a majority
Do more

Date: Started June, 5, 1984 and
completed November 6, 1984
Place: Red Marble Palour, God's
Village.

KNOWLEDGE

Glory to thee knowledge
The adoration of college
I bow to your power
It blossoms like a flower
In the hearts of men

Knowledge! two edged sword
You can come in few words
To blast the serenity of kings
Or assuage the pains of other beings
Debased by want and ignorance

Knowledge! I bow to thee
You open the gate of wisdom
To humans without fee
Used wrong you yield storm
To wash away the peace of men

Knowledge we salute thee
That our eyes are made to see
The freedom that you have brought
The miracle that you have wrought
To make man free

Date: February 3, 1977
Time: 11.30 p.m.
Place: White Marble
Palour, OCH

FALSE WORLD

I am not afraid of false world
There is nothing in its future
I am not afraid of false world
It is a foam from common soap
I am not afraid of false world
It is a seed that fell on sand
It is a friend of rats and rabbits
It is a companion of chaffs of corn
I am not afraid of false world
Easily uprooted by wind of truth
When it fails, it turns into refuse
The river of time carries its dust
Into the ocean of world of truth
Which fades away as an hour's dream
And truth emerges without change
With breeze of life among men
I am not afraid of false world

Date: Feb. 1984
Place: God's Village, Nnewi

DO NOT HURT YOURSELF

Do not do yourself any harm
You are under God's own arm
Do not worry about your life
You do not exist because you strive
Do not worry about what to eat
Nor think too much of dress to fit
Do not stress the wrong of others
Nor try to envy the rise of brothers
Do not injure the pride of kings
Nor touch the life of lower beings
Keep yourself away and alone
If you want to call your life your own
Do not attempt to steal from friends
Nor dare to follow the murderous trends
Do not agree to join to hate
Nor force yourself against your fate
Believe always that God is near
For Him alone your burdens to bear
Do not condemn your neighbour's acts
Without attempt to know the facts
Proceed to serve without reward
For that may bring God's award
When your life reflects the above
You stand a chance the fools to rebuff
And remain yourself always unhurt

Date: September 10, 1980

Place: Orizu Country Home

THE BIRTH OF JEALOUSY

He was born along with creation
Born alife without discrimination
In all countries, all races, all ages
In our paradise jealousy was there
Plenty of land, plenty of food all surplus
But Cain was jealous and killed Abel
It's quality is varied, indiscriminate, deep, violent
Indiscriminately attacks himself
Deeply enjures the soul
Violently destroys a nation
He spares no one
He starts from inside
He starts with brothers
He begins with sisters
His anger is deafening, definite
Against what is good
Good brothers such as Abel
Loved brothers such as Joseph
Good partriots such as Ceaser
Jealousy hates what is good
Jealousy killed those from God

Date: February 2, 1985
Place: Orizu Country Home

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE

It all depends on how you think
It all depends on what you say
Nothing is impossible to him that says I will

It all depends on what you believe
It all depends on your inner self
Nothing is impossible to him that says I will

It all depends on your faith in life
It all depends on your concept of God
Nothing is impossible to him that says I will

It all depends on your power to work
It all depends on your strenght to endure
Nothing is impossible to him that says I will

Pray to God for faith in self
Believe to reap when you sow
Nothing is impossible to him that says I will

Accept that challenge around your life
Make yourself a part of God
Nothing is impossible to him that says I will

Date: September 7, 1984
Time: 6.45 a.m.
Place: Sacred Room Upstairs

TRY AGAIN

This lesson is old
For long it was told
But now it is new
For strong and promising few
Tenants in the home of success
Aiming to match with progress
To try again anew
By that strong and select few

The tenants in the village of God
Who aim at winning award
That comes from trying again
Will find they would soon retain
The trophy from nature's hand
If only they will mean to stand
To fail and try again
And try and try again

History will embrace your chest
As you try again with zest
Forget discouraged hours
Recall your spiritual powers
To challenge the world of failure
If your mind is good and pure
Then to all the world exclaim
I shall always try again
The world will obey your command

Date: September 7, 1984
Time: 5.15 - 5.30 a.m.
Place: Sacred Bedroom, Upstairs

THE NARROW PATH

I pleaded with God
Who comes with Sword
To save or destroy
According to Him we employ
The talent of acquisition
In all our execution

I said to my God who understands
Thy servant is alone in love and truth
When friends and foes unite
When conspiracy becomes fun
When falsehood takes noble seat
I still believe in God of truth
I still worship the God of faith
I still follow the path of love

This lonely path
This ugly alley
This narrow line
This truth — God's Truth!!!

Date: July 24, 1974
Place: Old Office Library Section

DO NOT BE AFRAID

If you do the right
Do not fear the might
Of evil men's sword
For God's word
From His righteous throne
His good servants own

If you love your neighbour
Do not fear the prosecutor
Who misinterprets your love
To gloomy gods above
Be sure the God of gods
Will brush away the odds

Dot not fear the clouds of hate
Go out with hope to debate
Your sunshine of love
Will all riddles solve
Simple faith in truth
Will all evil uproot.

If you do the right
Hold your faith tight
If you do the right
Fly your soul as kite
Above winds and storms
Over all Dicks and Toms

Date: January 17, 1978
Place: O C H

AGAINST OPTIMISM

Do not be too optimistic
For it is unrealistic
Our life once begun
Is uncertain until it is done

We live from day to day
In sorrow or mirth or gay
But none can tell for sure
What drugs we need for cure

Do not be too optimistic
Nor grow to be erratic
For life is a game of guesses
Which eludes even Onasis

Money is not the end
Power is not a friend
Optimism does not change
The path of God's range

So, friend be realistic
Do not follw the optimistic
To ignore the unpredictables
Or to fight the inevitables

Date: July 18, 1979
Time: 5.45-6.15 p.m.
Place: In bed, Long Palour OCH.

MONEY AND POWER

Money and power
The ancient enemies of peace
The generators of strife and war
Keep off the mind of Man
To produce a new breed on earth
Give man time and space
To think of good and love
Give man some place in soul
To absorb the edicts of God
To return to his natural self
To be his brother's keeper
To give the best in him

Money and Power
Give peace a chance on earth
Without your urge and demand
Man shall love his brother
Without your eyes of greed
The poor shall obtain his share
Without your hands of grab
The weak shall enjoy his lot
Your insinuation is sinister
Your admonition is disaster
It's time for you to quit
Money and Power together

Date: July 25, 1979
Place: Orizu Country Home

MY LIFE AT BEST

I do the good I can
When and where I can
I leave the rest to God
To judge my right and wrong
And bless or charge my life
As best His conscience demands

Let me go on with life
Acting as though a child
Giving out my best to all
When many do not understand
That life at best is lived
When service is least understood

Date: September 22, 1979
Time: 8.15 p.m.
Place: Room 358 Suite, Federal
Palace Hotel, Lagos.

MAN: SELF CONTRADICTION

Man is a bundle of emotions
He loves to evoke resolutions
He swears to uphold ideals
But when at sight of ordeals
He cracks like clay walls
And to bottom of life falls

Man is a bundle of emotions
He conceives all beautiful notions
He dreams of love of man
All hate and war he bans
Only to find himself weilding swords
While his brother he assasinates with words

Man is a house of contradictions
He thinks he lives with convictions
He teaches people to be kind
And harbours a poisoned mind
He believes he grasps perfection
While entertaining friends of corruption

Man must question his God
To find the reason why
His life as known on earth
Contradicts itself for long
And why as made by God
Man constantly contradicts himself

Date: May 13, 1980
Place: Sacred Bedroom

FAITHFUL MEN

I have never heard
I have never seen
I have never known
That faithful men failed

I have never dreamed
I have never read
I have never been told
That faithful men failed

I have always known
I have always seen
I have always been told
That faithful men erred

Faithful men cannot fail
Faithful men cannot loose
Faithful men cannot change

Only God alone
Only God alone
From His reign above
Protects faithful men

I am a faithful man
Known so well to God
He will protect me

I have never heard
I cannot believe
For I have never seen
Where faithful men failed

Date: September 16, 1980
Time: 6.50 a.m.
Place: In bed, Long Palour
OCH

HOW TO BE HAPPY

If you want to be happy
Then be willing and ready
To all men a servant
At all times observant
Do not look for reward
And forget any kind word
From those whom you serve
Nor from him whom you observe
Give smiles in front of odds
Give a kobo to a begger on the road
Find cloth for a naked body
Give advise to a wandering mind
Give some light to a blind man
Find in a man the best he has
Avoid to exhume the worst in him
Give a widow a chance to exist
Give an orphan a room for growth
Up from bed early in the morning
Straight to work without complaint
Give your best till day is done
Find your rest at home at last
Say to your wife, your son or daughter
That life at best is now your own
Thank your God that you are you
To make the world a happy place

Date: September 16, 1980
Time: 10.30 a.m.
Place: Long Palour

ASSURANCE OF PEACE

The type of man that lives in peace
Is he that knows that none can please
That truth is not a food for all
That hate is gift for man's success
That humble men have a cross to bear
No child is born without travail
That every joy is followed by tears
That hate is loaded from those we love
That traps are made through our friends
And nature demands we bear them all
Or else we live not with peace

Date: February 3, 1981
Time: 8.15 8.19 a.m.
Place: OCH, Nnewi

BE NATURAL

In your life obey the nature
For there alone lies the future
The future of man lies in truth
And his continuity has a root
The formation of earth is not a dream
It did not come just like a beam
There is a law and order to follow
The life we live is not hollow
Contents of life is full of meaning
The aim of man is to insist on winning
The mind of nature and universal order

Where we shall discover the source of power
The power that moves and sustains our world
The power that makes the wind to blow
The power that makes the trees to grow
The power that makes the oceans to flow
The power that makes a new generation to follow
Join the dance of perpetual romance
The course of progress all to advance
Accepting the challenge of nature's laws
Or else the lamp of progress falls

Date: August 18, 1982
Time: 8.00 a.m.
Place: Sacred Bedroom

I AM PROUD

Tell me why I shall not be proud
Or why I shall not speak aloud
When my past life I reflect
Which was marked all through by neglect
When my days and dreams were consumed
When patriotism and services are exhumed
Without a throught or care for tomorrow
Through all the parts I know to be narrow

How can I not be proud
When I live among the crowd
To whom I give blood and brown
And yet before my face some frown
Even though I did not stop to conutribute

The things that make our nation to be great
Nor stop to tell everybody the truth
Which nobody has succeeded to refute

Why must I not be proud
Or why shall I not speak aloud
When I live in a grateful nation
That gave me all recongnition
By those who are wise
Who do not think otherwise
About the failure of pioneers
Or successes of social engineers

Yes, I must be proud
And my joy will always rebound
To belong to this Nigeria
Where man has his criteria
To accept life as challenge
And not to live for revenge
With love that builds a nation
A nation for black salvation

Started November 21, 1980
Finished August 12, 1982
Time: 4.30 p.m.
Place: God's Village, Nnewi

CLEAN THOUGHTS

Clean thoughts like clean water
Is something we cannot batter
They roll down like gentle breeze
Which no man has power to sieze
As they roll down from spiritual top
As forever they continue to drop

Clean mind like clean water
Has made the world not to scatter
They keep peace to promote love
And for the weak his problems to solve
Clean mind represents God
Clears dirty world with spiritual sword

Date: October 1982-July 14, '85

Place: 20 Porchester Place, London W2

FAIRNESS

Forgive those who hate you
Ask God prevent them destroying you
Give everyone his own share
Do not give the lazy underserved portion
Help all men foe or friend
Give no rope to any to hang you
Love your neighbour as yourself
Do not let him freeze you in the cold
Sacrifice yourself for all you can
Not for those who hate themselves
Listen to music when it sounds.
Go to work when it is time
Love your food and eat to your full
But let your hoe plough your farm
Go to school to get education
But pray your God to give you wisdom
Correct your friend when he is wrong
But check yourself for your own mistakes

Date: October 19, 1982
Time: 3.35 p.m.
Place: In the air London to Lagos

ROUTINE

Barricade to progress
Cobweb that entraps reason
Clubhouse that engages the ordinary
Windstorm that destroys garrizons
Your mission is ill-fated
To framing of effective life
Your mission converts the lazy
To desert the world of thought
To abandon creative direction
And enthrone foams and smokes
To enjoin the music of incoherence
And live from day to day
Running from pillar to post
Entertaining all manner of gossip
That deal with nothings of life

Date November 24, 1982
Place: OCH

BE A GENTLEMAN

Forget the world
And be yourself
Convert your mind
And be with God
Ignore observers
Observe yourself
Ignore the crowd
And live by truth
Engage in work
Ignore mistakes
Determine to win
But never by fraud
Engage in battle
That seeks for peace.
Look not for praise
When working for God
Request no reward
When helping the helpless
Pray not to God
To satisfy all wants
Ask not from man
To do all you please
Marry not for love
Unless you learn to love
Plan not to avenge
Unless you never offend
Ask not for favour
Unless you freely give
Try not to lead
If you can not be led
Keep your mouth shut
If you know nothing to say
When you observe the above
You are a gentleman

DO NOT BLAME YOURSELF

Do not blame yourself
Nor ask where is God
Do not doubt your vision
Nor ask if the good survives
Do not yield to pressure
Of those who seem to succeed
Simply hold to your faith
That life's journey is mystry
That what we call success
Can turn to colossal failure
And what seems to be failure
Can turn to brazing victory
The verdict of cross and crown
Will govern the court of appeal
Simply maintain your belief
That God supports the good
That service is above deciet
That sacrifice preceeds acclaim
That time has never failed
The friends of norrow path
Do the best you can
And never blame yourself

Date: July 24, 1983
Time: 6-6.50 a.m.
Place: Bedroom downstairs

WILL YOU GIVE HIM CHANCE

Will you give him chance
Or will you be in a hurry
Will you follow gradually
Or will you hurry to your grave
If you find yourself short
Or you find yourself tall
If your life is full of zest
And your blood flows with vigour
Will you assume you made yourself
Or realise your were made by him
Will you realise that He is the artist
Who built the machine you call yourself
And placed that heart you have never seen
You do not even know how you look
When you walk along the road
Your own back you have never seen
Your own face you cannot describe
Unless aided by outside mirrow
You enjoy to eat when you are hungry
And your stomach digests your food
Which keeps your body to grow and live
And that stomach you have never seen
Your brain orders your nerves and limbs
And directs your acts and reactions

The nature of your brain you know it not
The wonders it performs you claim to be yours
Appearing to forget the artist is there
Have you ever stopped to think of your tongue
A piece of meat cut out like a blade
Which helps you talk and helps you eat
Between two grinding machines
Have you ever stopped to ask yourself
Who gave your tongue its size and riggling nature

That enable it to talk and water your food
While the grinding machine crushes them all
If these wonders are known by you
Are you now ready to give Him chance?
The artist unknown, unseen, untouched
Call Him your maker, your nature, your God
Raise up your hands in awe and praise
Ask Him to tell you why you are made
Why you are yellow, black or white
Why you are born to your father and mother
Why you belong to a country or race
Why you can learn when others cannot
Why you are rich while others are poor
As you end your days work with joy
And expect the new year with hope
Work hard with your might
Serve others as you can
When it comes to what you will be
Do not go ahead of yourself
Always remember the Artist is there
Who moulded you from your mother's womb
And protects you from all dangers of life
Give Him a chance to complete His work
And enjoy your days' as a moulded machine
While expecting New Year as a son of God
Then ask yourself and friends a timeless question
Will you give Him chance?

Date: July 27, 1983
Time: 11.25 - 11.35 a.m.
Place: Bathroom Upstairs

ROOM ON TOP

There is always a room on top
If you have the guts
There is always a place above
If you know yourself
In this world as you know it from time
No man wants to make another
Every one struggles for self elevation
They build their ladders to ride atop
No one labours for others to ride
Your friends labour not for you
Do not believe that top has end
Every top has a top
And top continues according to our gaze
The end of top atops another
Except you make your own an end
Then another will come atop
A friend or foe though he may be
All the same atop he remains
No man has ended the race of life
Today's first is tomorrow's last
And life circle continues afresh
To remind humans to stand alert
For life's race with endless expanse
Where every mile calls for another
Every invention invents another
Every discovery discovers another
World records renew themselves
So be wise to find your top
Not by standing and guessing with fear
If on your street many cars park
And you find your car without a space
Do not dismay or grow disgust
Stand with faith a minute or two
Soon you will find a car will move

Leaving a space for yours to park
And that is trick and garne of life
Which many refuse to believe nor agree to apply

Date: July 31, 1983
Time: 11 - 11.31 a.m.
Place: Bathroom - Shaving Table Upstairs.

ACCEPTANCE

Our life in this world is a market place
We live as merchants with profit motive
To buy and sell for gain or loss
The guage of our strenght lies in acceptance
In the market, tradition is profit and loss
We have no right to gain if we cannot accept a loss

The greatest ambition of man is to produce his like
A father wants a son to represent him in future
He wants a daughter personifying his image
When we are lucky we produce our like
In that market of pro-creation we enjoy that profit
When we are unlucky we produce a negation
And the life's balance sheet stands at a loss
Here the stuff of man stands on trial
The law of acceptance knocks at the door
To remind the mortal that he is a merchant
That as he welcomes the child of his like
So will he accept a baby of negation
This is a fun of the game of the market

He goes back to the market unworried and unfraid
To invest again for gain or for loss
He may try this process again and again
Until by chance he strikes a luck
A luck to produce the like he wished
Like a regular merchant which he is
He must accept the like as a profit he made
And thank his star the trade is good
And this is the tradition we must accept

To this advice all ought to adhere
To live with joy without regret
To look for their like among their children
And expect a negation in the midst of all
The law of acceptance dictates at once
To breed them all within their folds
They all will grow as tars and corns
They all be allowed to enjoy the sun
Non wwill be denied the benefit of rain
In the family soil they all will grow
The wind of life will blow across
And time will come to harvest them all
The job is to seperate tars from corns
The tars for bush and corns for barn

Ashes from tars may turn manure
To enrich the soil, to breed the corn
The law of acceptance is to enjoy the result
To accept the nature and its law
That corn is food and tar is ashes
They go their ways into a merciless world
Where law of nature is exact and firm
That corn is corn and tar is tar
In this market place we call our life
The law of acceptance must govern our mind
Just be vigilant to detect the tars

Just be vigilant to discover the corn
They look alike when they are young
Be not in a hurry to hinder their growth
Soon or late they prove themselves
Obey the nature, save-guard your corns
Seperate the corn from vulgar tars
Have the courage to bear the loss
Tell the world in a sombre tone
That in your field are tars and corns
Put them away where each belongs
Save your corns from ruin of tars
And this is the way of a man from God

Date: March 2, 1984
Time: 6.30 a.m.
Place: Red Marble Porch

LIVE INSIDE YOUR LIFE

This is a great lesson of life
Which you from now must heed
Always live inside your life
Do not live the life for others
Leave every one to carry his burden
If any one has stolen your thing
Do not worry your mind for it
It is for the thief himself to worry
You should be happy you are not a thief
And allow no thief to make you unhappy
If a man lies against you
Make sure you are happy you are not a liar
His lies should not make you unhappy
All you have for him is scorn

But joy in soul for not being a liar
Give him chance to suffer for guilt
Protect yourself against anxiety
For the sin of others around you
Always remember to live your life
Do not live the life for others
That generousity is too expensive
To worry that another chooses to lie
Or worry that another chooses to steal
Is an expensive luxury for the good to entertain
Leave that burden where it belongs
In the chest of a liar in the heart of a thief
Do not share their burden with them
That is a lesson the good must learn

Date: August 19, 1984
Time: 9.55 - 10.10 a.m
Place: Bathroom Downstairs,
Library Building

TEMPTATION

Temptation, my friend, my friend
Be not unhappy for not being understood
Many people think you are not a friend
But I always know you are a friend
A friend of the needy great and small
You have always been a spice of progress
You have always been a spure to morality
You have always been a forerunner of intergrity
You have always produced the heroes of humanity
Be of good cheer my friend my friend

Temptation, temptation, Oh temptation
You have produced a Christ for the Christian world
Fourty days and fourty nights there the flesh of
Christ turned to spirit
You have forced Mohammed to go to the mountain
When the mountain tested his faith in God
You made Mohammed declare to the world
That faith in God cannot be tested
And Mohammed became a shrine for millions on earth
And temptation continues to improve the world

Through a woman, Pontiface wife
Temptation came to great Joseph
Threw him into prison without offence
But Joseph emerged leader of a nation
Franklin Roosevelt he visited with polio
Lo and behold a governor was made e
As if not enough, an American President
And temptation continues to elevate the strong

Date: May 5, 1986
Time: 7.10 - 7.20 a.m.
Place: Bathroom Upstairs

THE BIRTH OF TRUTH

In all Christmas mornings
As our life on earth keeps on running
I remember Him for whose birth we celeberate
Emmanuel, Him the Son of David
David the forgiving, the humble, the servant
The birth of His son is enjoyed today
When he was born truth was born
Truth and love nailed on the cross
By devils and demons in feverish land
They believe that fraud and force can burry
The truth and love that come with Christ
Little they know the nature of truth

No cross or grave can burry the truth
The truth delayed is a truth prolonged
Priests and judges, lawyers and scribes
Assembled themselves to burry the truth
They found in Christ
To shed His blood among the thieves
To make the world reject His mission
As immoral message full of abomination
To their homes they went with air of victory
They burry their victim in a lonely grave
No one objected, none defended
The earth opened for truth to rise

Today we live in our modern world
All religious groups profess their creeds
Like jews of old many are pharisees
Our courts are filled with lawyers and scribes
Our judges are clad with Methusalem wigs
Thieves and rogues are charged to our courts
Murderers and patriots are mixed with them
From time to time they join a Christ

And send Him to cross among the robbers
May God forgive the sins of our age
And give us light to see our Christs
Who work for Nigeria with love in full
To set our nation in peace forever

Date: December 25, 1984
Place: Orizu Country Home

THE MOULDED EDIFICE

How can we imagine
How do we determine
Where can we originate
How do we recreate
What God has ordained
Where nature has retained
The limits and heights
He fixes and tights
What a man will become
What a giant can overcome
How long he can live
What truth he can conceive
Man - the moulded edifice

He is born alone and naked
Into the world that is wicked
Born with every weakness, toothless
Sustianed only by God's goodness
And yet, soon or late
He stands on his legs of fate
Crying for wealth, full of ambition

He starts his own admonition
That man is above his God
That choice of his own is sword
By which at last he falls
Because he hardly recalls
That he himself is man
Man - the moulded edifice

Date: March 7, 1979
Time: 8.15 a.m
Place: Bathroom, OCH

SECTION TWO

NATIONALISM

Prince Orizu is an ardent nationalist and patriot. He devoted greater part of his life fighting for the freedom of his country and the emancipation of the black race jealously protecting his country's welfare with the greatest zeal and defending the rights and liberties of her citizens with a single mind. He lives for Nigeria and Africa in their interwoven relationship with humanity. All these passions in him were expressed in this section.

To Dr. Orizu his home is a rendezvous for genuine nationalists. This was phyilosophically expressed in the poem "Araba Tree" Araba tree is the most ancient of the trees in God's Village. The tree was deliberately preserved by Prince Orizu at the initial founding of God's Village, as a symbol of his convenant with God of the newly found village (not necessarily Dr. Orizu's traditional official residence). With time, as if ordained by God, the tree has grown into a large beautiful umbrella of an unusual dimension for any Araba tree anywhere.

It became Prince Orizu's favourite resting place. He works, rests and receives important visitors under this Araba tree.

Its coolness, the natural air condition and shade, has made it a part of inspirational edifice of God's Village, where he and his many important friends and groups have discussed important issues affecting the making of this nation.

His indictment of tribalism in this section is a clear demonstration of his attachment to the principles of universal brotherhood as a world citizen which he advocated in Chapter twenty-three of his book "Without Bitterness" published 42 years ago.

LOOKING FOR A NATION

I look for that day
I search for that time
I hope for that era
When Nigeria shall be a nation
A nation that forgets the tribe
A nation that inhabits the selfless
A nation where brothers do love
A nation where parents do guide
A nation where children do listen

I am looking for that nation
I am in search of that nation
A nation that breeds the industrious
A nation that breeds the truthful
A nation that contains the patriots

Date: July 22, 1982
Time: 8 a.m.
Place: Sacred Bedroom

MOTHER NIGERIA

My Nigeria, my Nigeria
The country of the glorious
The nation of the industrious
The abode of the famous
The enclave of the superfulous
Yield not to the perfiduous
Close your doors to the vicious
Make your sons to be famous
Make your courts to be judicious
Give your plenty to the indegenous
Mother Nigeria hear our prayers

Place: God's Village, Nnewi

ARABA TREE

My araba tree, my araba tree
Under whose shade I am free
Free to think and free to work
Staying for days without a word
Listening to voice of God above
All the problems of man to solve
His ways of love, His ways of hate
The way he falls into the hands of fate
Without any power to move or change

My araba tree, my araba tree
The tree that set my life free
Freedom from man's greed and grab
Freedom from evil men's trap
Freedom from women in brothel's life
Freedom from bandits on highway strive
Freedom from jealous brothers and sisters
Freedom from unguarded notions of spinsters
Araba tree that makes me free

My araba tree, my araba tree
Your beginning and end puzzle me
I do not know how long you're made to be
You lay foundation of God's village
And kept me free from people's bondage
For twenty-one years of unshaded green leaves
My angels start to find who lives
With tree of life full of mystery
Where my soul develops mastery

My araba tree Oh araba tree
Let your spirit come to me
The tree of life that brought me hope
And strengthens me with enemies to cope
An open land full of thunder storms
With your peace full security comes
The scotch of sun your shade banished
The evil spirits that abound vanished
And araba tree continues to grow

Araba tree great Araba tree
Be proud for whatever you may be
Your fame has grown from North to South
Your kindness discussed by every mouth
By those who love and enjoy your shade
For memory of your being can not fade
In the minds of those who shake your hands
As they come to God's village to take a stand
On whether Nigeria will live or die

Date: March 16, 1982
Time: 8.50 - 8.55 p.m.
Place: Bathroom, Downstairs

ROMANCE JULY

Today is it's twenty-ninth
The rain is pouring heavily
And comes with message of peace
The peace that comes from the land
The land that's full of life
The life that comes from food we eat
The food from fertile land grown
Because the rain is kind to us

From the porch of God's Village
My country home's glimmering sun
That ornaments the whispering trees
Enriches the araba wonder tree
And shines upon beautiful flowers
Which links heaven to my central park
And Ejeagwu park dances in romance
And enchants the chorus of God's village

Inspired by scenes of God's village
The God that loves our own Nigeria
For while other countries continue to dry
And drought invades their lands and crops
Nigeria enjoys rain in the main
Which fertile the land without our labour
And increase our wealth by leaps and bounds
With nature's oil on rivers' banks

Does Nigeria know that God
Do Nigerians love each other
Do our youths till that land
Do we labour to earn our living
Or depend on corruption and bribery
And abide by shooting and looting

When shall we love our God
And labour to justify His gifts

Oh rain continue to come
With your breeze and sun over us
Sing a son for us to join
To make us labour and learn to wait
And not to jump by fraud and greed
Or steal from neighbours while they sleep
And kill our brothers to become millonaires
When we can enrich by Nigeria's rain

Month of July do take a salute
From grateful tenants in God's Village
The month that brought our father to earth
The month that brought a message of hope
We watch with delight what rain has done
The growth of orchard and coconut palms
The fruits of guava and sweet banana
The splendour of sky that covers our heaven

Date: 29, July 1984
Time: 6.15 a.m.
Place: Office Upstairs

BENIN

Benin, Oh city of Benin
Get up and now begin
The culture of the ancients preserve
The pride of the forefathers reserve
The virginity of your maidens protect
The galantry of youth resurrect
The purity of your customs invoke
The vitality of your land promote

Benin, Oh city of Benin
Wake up, go out to win
The cup of unity and peace
For war and conflict to cease
For bendel your child to say
Nigerians will find their way
In Bendel streets and parks
The freedom songs and chants

Benin, Oh city of Benin
Reject those that are mean
To uphold your Bendel State
To use your real estate
For home of all Nigerians
Remove the old aggrerians
For place, the new Benin
For Nigerians unity to win

Benin, Oh children of Benin
Come back from where you've been
I see your future and pride
With silver and gold combined
In Oba's palace enshrined
With wings of eagle and dove
The throne of peace and love

Will mark Bendel's pride

Benin, Oh children of Benin
Call back all kits and kin
Who belong to the land of the greats
To read what Nigeria dictates
That nation is above a tribe
And service is better than bribe
The nation will forever stand
With Bendel's Unity band

Date: August 15, 1980
Place: On shaving Table, OCH

NIGERIA'S SONS

Give me some little flowers
Put them in table tumblers
Set them on ivory towers
To attract the spiritual powers

Give me some birds to sing
Let them stand in a ring
Flying aloft on wings
The peace of heaven to bring

Show me the virgins of the land
With hope and love to command
To move with force like a band
To die for freedom to stand

Show me Nigeria's sons
Who follow the direction of the sun
Who insist on Nigerian's turn
The world of freedom to run

Date: February 22, 1980
Time: 10.40 a.m.
Place: Orizu Country Home

TRIBE, GOOD-BYE FOR EVER

Tribe, please wait
Wait for Mother Nigeria
Give her right of way
To unite her children now
To collect them in her hold
To join them one by one
Till all become a nation
To march with joy and faith
Toward the corridor of fame
Where unity becomes their souls
And love propels their hearts

Tribe, please understand
That long has been your role
To divide and perturb Nigeria
You mock our quest for peace
And tear our flesh in pieces
And send our youths to grave
Your mission is only death

Which comes from bullets of thugs
Our women were torn to shreds
While running the homes alone
When husbands engaged in war

Tribe, be not proud
Your name beshames Nigeria
Who through your own advice
Her children engaged in war
Killing the best of men
Refusing to tell the truth
Stealing another's wealth
Sacking brothers from homes
To serve the God of tribe
Because the tribe enjoys
The shame of ruin and death

Tribe, please depart
Go to the age you belong
The age of doom and hell
Where people love to fight
Like animals around the bush
They lived by beastial emotions
Without the brain to think
Without ideals to cherish
Without a nation to uplift
Without a religion to uphold
Without a God to serve

Tribe, good-bye for now
Nigeria is crying aloud
For you to go your way
And leave her children alone
To fight for freedom of man
And seek a life of hope
To educate her citizens now

For great industrial race
And prove her power and might
To lead the African world
To end the colonial age

Date: May 20, 1980
Time: 3 a.m.
Place: Sacred Bedroom

GO TO JOS

For love of fancy, to embrace the nature
Go to Jos
For breeze of life that cools the nerves
Go to Jos
For balanced diet from grains that feed
God to Jos
When troubled by heat or torrential rain
Go to Jos
If you want to be happy in isolated Hotels
Go to Jos
For occupational opportunities that none can hinder
Go to Jos
If you want to observe Nigeria's table land
Go to Jos
If you want to see a wonder, a rock from heaven
Go to Jos
Ask not for Wase Rock, all you need do
Go to Jos
If you have ambition for good education
Go to Jos
For campus of beauty, of moral excellency
Go to Jos

To sing a song of a youthful patriot
In a dance of life that generates freedom
To breathe with health of spirit and flesh
To join the life that unites the nation
In campus of Doctors of the Siamese fame
With promise and hope full of romance
Where man and nature combine to inspire
The spirit of love for one Nigeria
Go to Jos

Date: April 13, 1986
Time: 11.50 a.m.
Place: Upstairs Office table

SECTION THREE

PAN AFRICANISM

Price Orizu's activities have all along been directed to the collective liberation of Africa as a whole in the march towards a continental freedom. This section echoes this idea.

Before Dr. Kwame Nkrumah left New York for London, he and Dr. Orizu worked in close contact as President and Vice President of the African Students Association of the United States and Canada in anticipation of that Pan African Congress.

Dr. W.E.B. Dubois also called on Prince Orizu in New York with whom he discussed and planned the Pan African Congress which Dr. Orizu could not attend in London because he was busy planning his African Continental Scholarship scheme, and pressured into completing his monumental book, Without Bitterness which was a vital part of Pan Africanism; while he was at the same time completing his graduate work at Columbia University. The African Students Association of United States and Canada (ASA) which Dr. Orizu himself founded in Columbus Ohio in 1941 was a part of his personal philosophy in the inevitability of the African Continental destiny.

Most of his poems and writings have always indicated his burning desire for Nigeria to play her role in fostering what he called "African Irredentism"

NKRUMAH: MY NKRUMAH

In brotherhood for nationalism
In faith for Pan Africanism
In concord with freedom
In marriage with liberty
We marched together
We suffered together
We worked in silence
We laboured with conscience
From Lincoln to New York
In America we planned

Dear Nkrumah
Go home in peace
March back with pride
Always go forward
Never look backward
The earth is empty
The world is vanity
All Gods in Africa
Will sing on your Sepulchre

Go back to Him
The God of Africa
In whose name you served
For whom you worked and died
He stands at gate of heaven
With hands stretched for thee
With band of angels around
To welcome Nkrumah home

Date: April 4, 1972
Time: 11:00 a.m.
O.C.H.

FREEDOM FOR ZIMBABWE

Burry freedom under rock
Let tyranny forge the chains
Push liberty into prison
Trap liberators with legal barriers
Banish freedom lovers from homes
Confiscate the properties of the poor
Grab lands from rightful owners
Collect gold from ignorant dwellers
Use Bishop to cover the sins
Zimbabwe will be free
Nyerere shall triumph
Shagari must rejoice
Kaunda shall jubilate
Nkomo shall resurrect
Mugabe shall rule
Africa shall be free

Date: March 4, 1980
Time: 9.00 p.m.
Place: Orizu Country Home

GOD OF AFRICA RETURN

The soul of man is crying aloud
The giant of the continent is on a trial balance
Nigeria is trembling on the brink of Abyss
Unless our God is near to protect
The smouldering edifice will turn to ashes
And Africa's day will turn to night
We pray to God to hear our prayers
To save Nigeria for eternal bliss

We built Nigeria with blood and tears
We suffered for years to create a nation
Humiliated, castigated, we bore them all
Cajoled and tortured for freedom sake
Sleepless nights, hungry days
Were prize we paid to free Nigeria
And God of Africa knows our burden

Behold and Lo, the freedom abused
Many put interest above the nation
Pursuit of wealth obscured our intellect
And freedom bell was put aside
And men started the hymn of greed
The trumpet of violence covered the land
And God of Africa turned His back

God of Africa please return
Leave not Thy children to perish for good
In the hands of confusion nurtured by ambition
Ambition to corrupt and destroy our morals
Ambition to deceive and injure our neighbours
In order that Gold shall be our own
To own the earth alone and alone
While Nigeria is melting away

God of Africa please return
To comfort the souls of thy servants below
To give this nation a new generation
Generation of men and women with vision
Whose sole aim will be to serve
Who will put the nation above themselves
And be humble enough to admit mistakes
And pave the way for peace to enter

God of Africa please return
Give us light to see thy way
That while we try to correct the nation
That we trash not the corn along with tars
To inspire the rulers with spiritual vision
To lead thy children with fear of God
With eternal peace to embrace Nigeria
And pride of Africa will rise again

Date: March 6, 1984
Time:11.30 - 11.50 a.m.
Place: God's Village, Nnewi

GIVE ME A BLACK MAN

Give me a black man
With whom I shall dine
Give me his white teeth
To assuage my taste

Give me a black man
With whom I shall love
Give me his arresting smile
To conjure my sleep

Give me a black man
With his virgin skin
Give me his contagious laughter
To difuse my pains

Give me a black man
From Nile and Niger
Give me his physical prowess
To glide the tides of time

Give me a black man
From Darker and Uganda
Give me his poetic genius
To welcome Africa's future

Give me a black man
With his romantic urge
Give me his sense of pride
To pave my freedom road

Give me a black man
Who goes across the world
With freedom bell to ring
And liberty song to sing

Give me a black man
With handsome frame to charm
Give me his heart of Lion
To fight for good of all

Give me a black man
With vision from God alone
To incite continental freedom
Within the African soil

Give me a black man
To give a final touch
To dreams of freedom at heart
With plans of unity in hand

Date: March 24, 1981
Time: 12 p.m.
Place: O.C.H., Nnewi

SECTION FOUR

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

The most prominent attribute of Prince Orizu's poems is their general characteristics of involving God, directly or impliedly in his life. This is illustrated in this section as the title of the section suggests. The poems in this section speak loud of his deep rooted belief, implicit confidence and unshakable faith in his God, as the supreme father of the universe. He believes that he is a special agent of God and like Abraham he has a childlike faith in the ultimate triumph of the good over evil.

To him God is the source of his strenght as he made clear in "My Hidden Powers." He frowns at man's ingratitude to his God as soon as he gets money, power or wealth and solemnly communicates that no matter whatever efforts the mortal makes nothing works "Without the Living God".

WITHOUT THE LIVING GOD

What men refuse to learn
Is the futility of man's plan
That what mortal proposes
Can vanish as flesh decomposes
That man may attempt to destroy
Those whom God decides to employ
Since God is the source of life
Man may conspire and strive
He still remains a being
Who walks into his ruin
Once he refuses to learn
The futility of man's plan
Without the living God

Date: November 11, 1979
Place: Breakfast Table
Ofe O C H

WHAT SHALL I DO FOR MY GOD

My gratutide to God is overflowing
My appreciation for His love is overwhelming
And yet so limited my power to demonstrate
So weak my body to promulgate
The great things
The wonderful favours
The untold gifts
That my God gave
For my joy on earth

To me He gave talents unlimited
On me He showered blessings uncounted
For me He created areas of conquest
And guarded me against all hazzards and tempests
He sharppened my intelect
Then subdued my enemies
He multiplied my friends
Fulfilled my promises
Answered my prayers

What can I do now for this loving God
This wonderful creator the unfailing providence
Than to submit my life to serve all men
To forgo my pleasures for joy of all neighbours
To embrace humility
To avoid dishonesty
To uphold Unity
To abhore profanity
To befriend the oppressed

Date: September 14, 1984
Time: 2.30 p.m.
Place: On bed, Long palour

THE GOOD WILL WIN

I have uplifted others
In order to please God
I have sublimated ambition
To make room for new generation
I have neglected myself
In order to build a nation
I have postponed my pleasures
To enrich the joy of many
I have thrown away my pride
To elevate the integrity of others
I have frowned at ny family
In order to secure other families
I have suspended economic gains
To ensure survival of friends

I have a hope within
That God is standing by
He knows my wish for others
The tears I shed alone
When others suffer in vain
From wounds of wicked friends
Or stabs from traitors arms
He smiles at ease with me
And points His finger above
For me to continue the journey
Without a thought for morrow
For future is full of hope
That God will care for the good
Forever the good will win

For soon will come the day
When time shall beckon the good
Without concern for the past
When doom loomed around

Wealth will flow like sea
Health will beam like sun
Fame will clamour on high
Angels will sing in groups
And dance in victorious mood
To inform the world of men
Because they know for certain
For God has assured them all
Forever the good will win

Date: March 26, 1981
Place: Orizu Country Home

MOTHER'S DAY

Mother of God's Village
Your soul is remembered
Mother of God's Village
Your children are unnumbered
Mother of God's Village
Your name is honoured
Mother of God's Village
Your children are awed
To ressurrect your deeds
For they know indeed
Your sacrifices in life
Your agonies and strife
Your nights of torture
When building our future
Your days of devotion
To sustain our position

Your marriage to greatness
Your attachment to goodness
Your respect for your husband
Who gave you fighting band
You the mother of greatness
The womb that harboured holiness
Today is mother's day
From wherever you may lay
Below the heavens or above
To you praise is given
God be with you

Date: April 1, 1984
Time: 5.00 a.m.
Place: Major Bedroom

MORNING DEVOTION

Give me serenity today
Give me humility tomorrow
Give me tranquility for ever
Let me serve humanity

Give me truth to tell
Give me mission to spread
Give me vission to see
Let me serve my country

Give me patience to bear
Give me calmness to endure
Give me wisdom to know
Let me serve my God

Date: February 2, 1983
Time: 8.03 p.m.
Place: In bed Long Palour

THE LONELY BIRD

I move without care
I move without fear
God always with me
Where ever I shall be

Date: April 25, 1980
Time: 7.25 a.m.
Place: In Presidential Bath
Tub PH Room 38

ONE COMPANION

I am one lonely bird
Flying high flying low
I was born the only son
Without a sister without a brother
There was none to accompany me
Through the journey of this my life
Where the road is full of thorns
And wide seas full of storms
I struggle alone to see the sky
I have one and one companion
The spirit of God the root of power
They told me to go and face the storm
They ordered me to walk on thorny road
To fear nothing except fear
To ignore the force of devil and man
And join the band with sword of truth
To wage a war against oppression
Untie the rope to liberate my country
To educate the mind to embrace freedom
And serve my nation as long as I live
And live in peace with my companion
The spirit of God the source of power

Date: January 17, 1980
Place: God's Village

MY HIDDEN POWERS

Little do neighbours know
The power that dwells in me
From pole to pole they go
Without my secret to see
That God is all I have
When life begins to dread
And turn our lives in halves
And break all rocks to shreads

Little do brothers care
To ask the reason why
My life they stuff with tars
Continues to bloom with joy
They seem to forget the fact
That God is standing near
Inspite of all their pact
To fill my eyes with tears

Little does the world realise
That son of God can stand
The power that millions organise
To bury my flesh alife
To hide the truth in me
To hang with thieves alike
When the truth they hide
Will rise forever more

GRATITUDE TO GOD — THE CREATOR

He who brought me into the world
And kept my life on floating sea
He who designed my thoughts bold
To face outrageous men I see

God who blessed me in full
From cradle to my grave
He who ordered angels to pull
My floating boat unsunk and safe

He who adorned my person
To go the way of my fathers
He who directed my reason
To transcend all enemies' boarders

I bow in gratitude

Date: July 27, 1976
Time: 11.00 p.m.
Place: God's Village

GOD'S HARVEST

Man's gifts and harvests have limit
Man gives from the little he has
He gives during short term of his life
God's gifts transcend eternity
God's harvest is indestructible
God's gift is permanent
Because God's quality is eternity
God's Village is a gift from God

Date: October 19, 1982
Time: 2.40 p.m.
Place: In the air abode British Cal.
London-Lagos

THE UNGODLY

I shall rule the universe
Oceans and seas to traverse
I shall conquer the world
All I need to say is a word
Sons and daughters will obey
When I point where they stay

Who can question my desire
Who can wage if I aspire
Can God, even God, intervene
When I decide just to win

A! says a voice of reason
Be quiet and then listen
No one is above his God
That man may unsheath a sword
But a word from God above
Can break bones though tough

Boast not you man of flesh
For God is supreme everywhere
When He decides over there
Our destiny here to change
He moves from range to range
To make or unmake our life

Date: November 15, 1978
Place: O C H

PERSONAL PRAYER

God .
Give me wisdom to know where I am
Alertness to know when to run
Vigilance to know what to watch
Clarity to know how to think
Courage to know when to speak
Vision to know what I see
Humility to serve where I must
Sensitivity to avoid what is wrong
Patriotism to work not for self
Health to face difficult world
A mind to know but love my enemy
A family to live in peace
A country to uphold liberty
A nation to liberate the blacks of the world
Humanity that believes in the laws of God

Place: God's Village

THE GIFTS I WANT

God give me
Not much of life
But much of living
Not much of talent
But much of achieving
Not much of love
But much of loving
Not much of a wife
But much of a companion
Not much of a son
But much of a believer
Not much of wealth
But much of health

Date: April 28, 1979
Place: Under Araba Tree, O C H

TOWARD CALVARY

God is always near me
When my tears do roll
He sees the deep of my heart
When I cry in soul

God is always near me
In my national work
He shall never forget
The path which I trod

God is always near me
When friends are all gone
He can keep me in His wings
When my clothes are torn

God is always near me
When sleep leaves my eyes
He is mother, wife and son
When comfort freeze to ice

God is always near me
In my darkest hour
He is light, bread and wine
When all food is sour

God is always near me
When life makes me sad
He leads me from dark to light
When all light is bad

God is always near me
To clear all my doubts
He reassures me of His love
His eternal vows

God's own judgement shall come
When man's hate disowns
He shall make all the world know
That He knows His own

God is always near me
When I stand alone
He is captian standing by
To protect my home

Date: July 22, 1954
Time: 2.30-2.45 a.m.
Place: My father's palace

THE UNCONQUERABLE MINDS

Types of minds are many
Some are made of rock
Some are made of Steel
Others are made of Clay
The mind of Rock cannot be moved
The mind of Steel cannot be bent
The mind of Clay is easily broken
All these minds live in the world
They eat and drink like brothers all
They chart in common as though all gaints
But when the test of life comes
The Rock stands
The Steel resists
The clay yields

Now my friend, where is your mind
Do you have a mission to spread on earth
Or to live and die without a goal
Do you believe in freedom for all
Or that freedom is a reserve for you alone
Are you ready to die in defence of truth
Or surport falsehood as a wise devise
Do you enjoy the luxury of service to all
Or is service to you a burden of flesh
Do you believe in the fortunes of love unreserved
Or do you consider hate as a sign of strenght
Whatever you believe, do you stand as a rock
Whatever you encounter, do you resist as steel
Or crumble as clay, when slightly challenged

The unconquerable mind is a reserve for the few
The citizens of the world that defend our rights
The universal minds that work for all
The indormitable spirits that defend our freedom
The creative souls that elighten our vision
Fearless tongues that inspire generations
The sacrificial lambs that go to the cross
For the things they preach and for those they love
These sons of God
These movers unmoved
These everlasting redeemers
The trumpeters from heaven
The unchallengable warriors
The unconquerable Minds!!

Date: July 21-28. 1986
Time: 2.00 - 2:02 p.m.
Place: Office Upstairs & White Marble

ERRATA

Page V: Second to last line - the word is 'Fortune' not 'Furtune'

Page VIII: The word in number 4 is 'Tyranny' not 'Tyrany'

Page 1: Line 8 should read "And the rush of merciless wind"

Page 5: The word in second stanza line 4 is 'Integrity' not 'Intergrity'

Page 7: The word in stanza 8 line 4 is 'Heights' not 'Hieghts'

Page 8: The word in stanza 1 line 4 is 'Calls'

Page 15: The word in line 9 is 'Injures' not 'Enjures'

Page 16: The word in stanza 4 line 2 is 'Strength' not 'Strenght'

Page 26: The word in line 12 is 'Advice' not 'Advise'

Page 28: The word in first stanza line 7 is 'Thought' not 'Throught'

Page 28: Second stanza line 5 - 'Contribute' not 'Countribute'

Page 30: The word in first stanza line 1 is 'Thought' not 'Thoughts'. In line 4 - 'Seize' not 'Sieze'

Page 32: The word in line 4 is 'Garrisons' not 'Garrizons'

Page 34: The word in line 8 is 'Mystery' not 'Mystry'. And line 17 the word is 'Deceit' not 'Deciet'

Page 35: The word in first stanza line 10 is 'You' not 'Your'. Line 18 the word is 'Mirror' not 'Mirrow'

Page 38: First stanza line 4 should read "The Gauge of our strength lies in acceptance' not "The guage of our strenght lies in acceptance".

Page 39: Second stanza line 9 the word is 'None' not 'Non'. Line 13 the word is 'Separate' not 'Seperate'.

Page 40: Line 6 the word is 'Separate' not 'Seperate'

Page 41: Last poem line 7, the word is 'Spur' not 'Spure'. And in line 8 the word is 'Integrity' not 'Intergrity'

Page 42: 3rd to last line there should be no 'e' after 'made'

Page 43: The word in stanza 1 line 10 and stanza 2 line 1 & 4 is 'Bury' not 'Burry'. Stanza 2 line 10 the word is 'Buried' not 'Burry'

Page 44: The word in second Poem 2 stanza line 4 is "Sustained' not 'Sustianed'

Page 47: Second poem line 5 the word is 'Superfluous' not 'Superfulous'. Line 6 the word is 'Perfidious' not 'Perfiduous'. Line 10 the word is 'indigenous' not 'Indegenous'

Page 48: Stanza 3 line 4 the word is 'Laid' not 'Lay'

Page 50: The title of the poem is 'Romance' of July' not 'Romance July'

Page 51: Fifth stanza the word in line 7 is 'Millionaires' not 'Millonaires'

Page 52: The word in stanza 3 line 6 is 'Agrarians' not 'Aggrerians'

Page 56: Second poem line 6 reads "Go to Jos" not "God to Jos"

Page 58: First word in first line is 'Prince' not 'Price'. And line 3 no "a" after towards.

Page 60: First word in first line is 'Bury' not 'Burry'

Page 65: The word in first line of 2nd paragraph is 'Strength' not 'Strenght'

Page 67: Second stanza line 4 the word is 'Hazards' not 'Hazzards'. Line 5 the word is 'Sharpened' not 'Sharppened'

Page 71: Last word in first Poem is 'Wherever'

Page 72: Last word in first stanza is 'Shreds' not 'Shreads', 3rd stanza line 4 the word is 'Alive' not 'Alife'

Page 79: 1st stanza the word in line 7 is 'Support' not 'Surport', in line 11 the word is 'Strength not 'Strenght'

DR. THE RT. HON. PRINCE AKWAEKE
ABYSSINIA NWAFOR ORIZU

Author of Without Bitterness, Original Zikism, Before I Die, The Leadership We Want and Horizontal Education. Former President of the Nigerian Senate and once acting president and the commander in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Former Chancellor of the University of Jos

Jos University Press Ltd