

Poetry Series

Idowu AdegbileroIwari
- poems -

Publication Date:

2017

Publisher:

Poemhunter.com - The World's Poetry Archive

Idowu AdegbileroIwari(18-07-1981)

Adegbilero-Iwari Idowu formerly Adeniyi Adegbilero Idowu is a native of Ijan-Ekiti, a neighbouring farming community to Ado-Ekiti, the capital city of Ekiti State, southwest, Nigeria. He obtained a good Bachelor's degree in Agriculture before proceeding into his preferred profession of Library and Information Science after completing his MLIS programme at the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria in 2010. Idowu has since worked in three libraries as Digitization Consultant at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture of the CGIAR Group, Medical Librarian at Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti before his current job as Emerging Technologies Librarian at Elizade University. Idowu in 2015 won the Carnegie Grant to train at the University of Pretoria, South Africa between May and June alongside other librarians from five Carnegie African countries. He is also a winner of the prestigious Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Fellowship award for the year 2016. This gave him, with four other young librarians, opportunity to travel across three US states and the DC to understudy libraries and librarians. He was honoured as a member of the American Library Association and a Certified Librarian of Nigeria (CLN) . Idowu is passionate about open access, technologies in library, public and community library development and modernization of the library environment. He is a seasoned presenter and trainer on emerging scholarly technologies. He is has organized and facilitated numerous training within and outside his institution, some of which he has won internationally competitive grants (e.g. INASP/UNESCO OA Week Grant) to organize. Idowu is full of precious ideas to transform librarianship in Nigeria and also impact on the future generation of societies by investing his time, energy and resources in today's children.

An Ode To The Heroes

For their rights to place a demand
For their demand of what's right
Today, in 1976, Soweto wailed!
Tears streamed down the cheeks of mothers
When Regina could not save the boy
When the fathers gasped to cope with awe
The awe of children lost to bullets
Unkind barrels that fell the likes of Hector
Hectic moment in the life of a people
People of all colours the like of a rainbow
Who now bow to the wishes of a pardon
Pardon advanced by a "prisoner" of old
Who reproached the horror the Isle bestowed
To become the prince of his people by grace

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Bastards

The Romans built Rome
The French ornamented Paris
Though the fantasy of nation building beclouds our face
Yet the "Bastard ones" would arise, the remnants of grace

These are men unusual in their kinds
Men unique in their thought processes, with the faculty of fairness
Whose logic appeal to love and style to selflessness
Who have killed regard for perishing wealth

Wealth and material that blind their peers' knobs
Removing the sockets of service from their skulls
Giving no room for the eyes of compassion
Beguiling their patriotic souls, erring into folly

Souls seeded into the mire of moral ill
Minds corroded with bizarre corruption
Normalising criminality in their blackened consciences
Wrongs turning rules, rendering rights homeless in the land

Their legs deeply stamped in shamelessness like elephant's in mould
Materialism, queasy wealth; a mentality betraying humanity
The agonising pleasure of counted votes that never count
These they bear to show the beast in them

But until the "Bastards" shall rise
A people with power to act differently
Not the stature of physicality alone
But goliaths in character and manners

Power of will and principle professing sanctity
To halt the maddening sceneries of national life
To stop these acts normally strange to humanity
Occurring in our land as if we are cursed
Assumed curse overshadowing the bliss to us bequeathed

Men whose will and vote cannot be bought
Men who would never trade human dignity and decency
Whose worth is not in the count of Naira

Costly but priceless men who would birth change in the land
Christen them the bastard ones, but now they must rise to bend the
"rules".

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Black Renaissance

I am black and bright
I am bold and beautiful
With brawn and brain
And benevolence in my blood to build
A fair and wealthy world

In love and liberty
Devoting my destiny
To fulfil my Maker's dream
Vision once seen by the fathers
The hope I build upon
The dream that further must live

A better world for all of God's children
Must come by the knowing of who I am
With this courage in my heart
And pride in my head; faith in my self
With the will to do, we would sing again
Like morning birds beside the humble brook
The song of honour for all of God's children

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Deafening Babel

Big table richly decked
Huge cake all must share
Your cut by the barrels of gun
Or mine by ballots of votes

Yet, mine to earn because I am humus
And after times, yours, because arid you are
Turns we choose to take
To demo the craze we have in our veins

Democracy now becomes turnocracy
Turning the sanest of men
From avuncular to militias spitting fire
We have signed to this rotacracy so they claim

Who cares to listen to another in the land?
Where perfidy of lies and hypocrisy of rivals
Have prowess to break the symphony of oneness
And crumble the hope of reaching the heights

Lofty heights envisioned by the fathers
Now dreaded by greed and their self-centric manners
This noise can break our wall of hope
Just like in Babel, deaf hearing ears, our tongues are twisted again.

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Enemies Of Our World

Friends really they are but foes of them we've made
Bliss so they are but on land spells and curses
Fun and care they shoulder but fear and awe we earn
Perhaps, then, they aren't foes, may be the problem us is

The gift of oil beneath the earth
The fossils of the past dwellers meant to ease our time
But become the load that strain our necks
Blessing beneath the earth but thorns upon our flesh; the globe is warm

The borders of Abyei, the 'Kashmir' of Sudan's north-south war
The Niger- Delta region, the abode of Nigeria's south-south horror
Iraqi-Kuwaiti impasse, the war on the gulf that murdered neighbours
The barrels of oil, and its gun barrels, may render barren the earth we dwell

The Deity we disdain may cause a dent on our stay
Real or vague, all have come to know there is the being supreme
This common fate we share with disparate faiths
Is another friend that fight our peace

In the mouths of our religions are the explanations
Justification for terror, the menace that threatens our common nature
The Easts, middle and far, Asia, Africa and the West, all of our lands
Have fought to protect their gods, the bitter rivalry of a failing world

And the peace, justice too, we all fight to earn
But yet elusive for the lack of love, the mother of all
Can we fill our eyes with the water of love
And feel our humanness once again?

If the wealth of oil we need per se, must we buy the barrels of gun?
If peace we really crave, must we fight these needless wars?
And if gods they truly are, do they need mortals for defense? Let us talk to our
brains
It is blood we bear, not water; can we halt the wars and make our world a better
place, please?

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Green-White-Green

Green upon green united by white
Food upon food connected by peace
How precious you are like green, Nation?
Dear Homeland,
You are like an ensemble of precious stones
Emerald united by jasper so is thy colour
Rubies all over your land
Minerals lodged beneath your earth
If you are a coast of gold one wonders at times
Arise o patriots and company
Let the banner of your homeland hoist
Fly it high above the nations'
By your character and feats O statesmen!
Swing, fly, O flag by the pride of your children

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Harvey

Harvey,
You came so hard with forces so ferocious
In a manner we rarely see, you stormed Texas
With shivers you put Louisiana on edge
You ravaged Houston, flooded the streets and blasted her walls

Harvey,
The rampant storm that rendered the houses rustling
And the people homeless, for safety scampering
Shelters were shattered by you, children crying
And miles and bridges in rumbles you left

Harvey,
You broke the addiction of Addicks
She spilled her waters that boats plied the watery roads
And the cars of Houston were submerged like submarine
Monuments were moved ashore by your rivers

Harvey,
Austin and Washington could not but answer your thunderous call
As compassion flurried from all of earth
Prayers and vigils from distant lands to strengthen
The gallantry of men and women on ground, lives to rescue

Harvey,
You have left a trail and a tale that will long be searched and told
Now you must go away and let alone
The city of my love that hosted my feet for four hours
When she admitted me to the nation that put her trust in God

Harvey,
You have done your part, now the people shall arise
Their bits to do with courage and steel themselves
To turn the gory story that Harvey has told
To a tale of glory the world shall ever tell

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

I Am Black

I am black in kind
I am black in nature
I am black, I'm the image of God
The strength I must have
The courage I must bear
The truth I must know
The reality I must grab
To fulfil my purpose on earth
The essence of my time
The love I must share
The mistake God never made
Creating me black is
I am proud of my colour
The black that I am.□

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

In The Search Of Peace

To earn peace we learn war
Security we crave, rescue we call
And rather to defend, further we offend
Even as we battle to settle the scramble for living

We fickle, we fall
Remonstrating the compromise of our aged values
Romancing the Union to rob a rest
Keeping mum on the hell of a matter

To say the truth is to stand alone
Stand alone and risk the terror like the twin of a tower
Perhaps the key to peace is placed with the crowd
Above and below, these we do to earn the vagrant peace

Honest lies of brokered truce
Hostile love, feigned faith
Until we respect ourselves as man and the blood in us
Peace will be far away from reach

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Mandela: My Distant Friend

Dear friend,
Goodness has tied us together
Nature has made it so
Common destiny we share
Fortune has made us friends
Friend,
Your age my age
Yet I'm a million hours younger
Your season of birth, the dates,
Same as mine, the work of God
Lo, similar path to life we trod
Friend,
Your life I adorn, your time is good
The trials though, in them your glory lay
Your values I love, your struggle I share
Your ideals I cherish, bliss to earth you are.
Friend,
Your name swells my head;
Sending waves across my frame:
The works you wrought,
The fights you fought,
Like awe, erecting the hairs on my body
Friend,
You will go to grave not as a fighter
Not for weakness though,
But in victory, you've seen your struggle succeed
Your dark past of brutality gone,
Friend,
But the brighter now and morrow of freedom
Lightened by a free and equal nation
Where creed and colour banished to death
Humans, now, all are, black, and white, the coloured
All you've glimpsed by the grace of God
My dearest friend,
Distance apart us may keep
Age may range us further apart
My dream is you to see
Whether it be or not, be sure you've touched me.
Time says, you are the hero of our world, my friend dearest.

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Nigeria, Thee I Hail

Nigeria I hail thee
Great nation, noble land
Great people, gallant minds
Great God, the Father of all

Thou art blessed, oh nation!
Thy vast land, thy glory
The endless resources of the greatest worth
These are thy richly crowns

Thy abundant human resources thy pride
Swarming thy soil like bee the hive
In tongue, though they differ, in tone one they art
In thy children, the nations art blessed

Thy geography is great, thy location perfect
In Africa, though biggest, the head thou art
In the world, a force; yea, a voice thou art
Nigeria, thee I love, Nigeria, my pride thou art

Thy many tribes thy colour
Thy various tongues thy crown
North and south home thou art
East and west, nay, a stranger never thou art

Forbid me if I talk of thy different people
Thy unity in diversity still will I praise
Farther a thought is thy various nations
All I see is the one, virile Nation, Nigeria thee I hail!

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Rolihlahla: The Trouble Maker

Born on the eighteenth day of July nineteen eighteen
The Excellency of days, the jewel of time
Vegetation greened with grace, villagers' gleaned,
Food, abundant and surplus, a time of harvest.

Born to a time of comfort
Sufficient rainfall displaced stress
The beginning of a new half; moon lighted the night
When nature never appear to betray its splendour

Madiba the great, Rolihlahla the trouble maker
Who troubled the system to humble its rumble
Never giving up to injustice
With his blood fighting inhumanity

Thembu royal descendant birthed into apartheid
Men profaned by the disdained era
That indulged bestiality and cruelty to protect the few
In a society with Mandela such naivety would falter

Who would sacrifice personal comfort to rescue peace
Slaughter own interest to see equality reign
Kill his ego to enthrone democracy for all in the south
Who would suffer ten thousand days of incarceration
Only to walk into freedom, seeing his struggle soaring successful

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Story Untold

Art of all genres
Have bred the gene of one tone
That the thrones have yet to probe
The flow of love across the souls

Relayed by the mercantile Stars
Making a show of its worth, though
Yet, mocking the essence of its might
Love has been orphaned, the fugitive we all made

Often sang but never said
Rhymed but not rhythmmed
Performed but never perceived
Preached but never practiced

Taught in theories in their schools
But never worth considering in their souls
Great souls that trail the time
Time and tide that would wind off like scrolls

Regularly popular but usually fameless
Showy always but normally faceless
Oh love! Oh love!
The loudest tune never heard

Halt this noise and appeal to voice
The voice of reason, the voice of passion
That cries in the outer wilderness of shame
Hate, we harbour in our hearts, exiling love from our hearts

Having sang so much of love
We have yet to lit its flame
That can cremate the discord of hate
And guide our mouths to profess the symphony of a story yet untold.

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

That They Were Born

That they were born our world rejoiced
That they were born we raised our voices
That they were born we sobbed in tears
The world was doomed, the monsters they were

That he was born the carnage was staged
Brutality swallowed mutuality
Hate betrayed harmony, acrimony buried love
Nations against nations, war in the world the second time

That he was born, terror in the land
That fateful day sorrow filled our hearts
Handy darkness like umbrella shielded the earth
In the ninth month, the twin had fallen, the world was wailing

That he was born, the coup was staged
The reign of tyranny, our sole memory of him
Oppression like a heavy load breaking their necks,
The gift he gave, absolute ruler wanting to ever reign.

That he was born, the freedom he fought
Apartheid torn apart like an old fabric
All are same, one and equal now all are
The sacrifice of one man

That he was born, motor can run
That he was born planes can fly
That he was born the world reduced
To a little room, I'm where you are

What shall we write that you were born?
Will in peace our world dwell or in pieces?
Will your memory a blessing or a curse be?
Make the most of time that you are born!

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

The "Nigereign";

Maze of peace around the Niger
The slate of hope decked in grace
Pacing to greatness the Nigerian state
But her heads has meant a tasteless fate

Until these greats will lay in their graves
She will never break the gate of Hades
That waylays her aim for a less strained stay
The frail stay to soon derail

A great price but one must pay
The pain he must crave to earn the gain
The gain of a reign without the hail
That patriots we all are to serve our land

Patriots without pay standing to pray
Warriors without wage waking to slay
The disdainful nature that swallows the common wealth
To beam the ray of a glorious stay; all hail, Nigeria reigns!

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

The Brave

And the brave that cares less for the grave
Shall like Aves have grace
To crave for the heights
And save his people from hate

The hate they cage in their being,
To deny themselves a life of virtue
The ravening greed in their ranks
The loots of their Heads, the source of tears

Tears on the faces of the masses
Plundered by the plights of ill-rule
By their Heads that lack concern
For the sorrow that swallows the land

But the brave that cares less for the grave
Must come to break the chain of hate
Awakened by the array of their reigns, the Heads
But the brave, sincerity and love, the virtues to crave

Your ear the lonely coldness of truth must bear
And alien to lies your lips must be
Your eyes never must wink at wealth unearned
Halt not, be it losing your life a mark to make

Your courage must be in the hope
To live forever in the hearts of all
The pusillanimous dies in the ditch of indifference
But the courage of the brave shall save him from the grave.

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

The One Answer

One world, numerous nations
Many people, umpteen races
Hues unending, infinite tongues
Diverse soils, different climates

Questions upon questions
Quizzical quirks quiz our brains
Over the queer occurrences
That leave us in a quandary

Seeking to solve the questions of life
War we raised to earn our peace in turn,
Acrimony and animosity rages on like a wild fire
Sovereignty, territorial integrity
Right for self-determination and defense,

Such words, resonate on our bloodstained lips
And the cordial rivalry, cold and hot wars alike
Superiority claims and counter-claims.
The exploits of science, the high ebb of research

Weapons of mass destruction, uranium enrichment
Nuclear arms, such are the words that put our world in a limbo
Measles of a missile for the masses of the earth
Fired from beneath the waters

Poured like hail stone from the wings of planes
Upon the earth, the rain of fire
Meeting upon meeting, league of lies
Armistice, ceasefire, disarmament and bans
Seeming answers but stirring the storm
The unity of the United Nations is once and again queried

In search of peace, justice is the path
But truth is the driver of justice
Rather love and seek same it is the mother of all
And the one answer to earth's onerous questions

Weepy Day

Who burst your boil that you burst into tears, O day?
Whose acrimony has caused you this lachrymose moment?
This effluent of your pain has brought us worry
Leaving us with the tale of a day for which we are sorry

The mountains were mashed in your tears and the trees must weep
The isles could not evade the torrent from your eyes, the lakes must dance
Weepy! Weepy! Weepy eyes! The day is bitter and we all could see it
These chilly tears have caused us all to ask, what befall you, O day?

That the laissez-faire with the heart of a sparrow that prides on pity
Was caged to the comfort of the nest in which he dwells
To further oppress the unlucky bed he troubled all night
To snore and gnaw his jaws, pour his sluggish rain to wet his tired bed

But for the mighty with the heart to dare the effluence
And make a wreck of the effusive pour of a mournful Day
To take his dwelling from the border of deceitful rest
And betray the patience to further embrace your tears, O weepy Day!

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Wide Wild World

Our common humanity
In this human community
That hallows hostility
To narrow mutuality

Disdain in a world without sanity
The rudeness we cut to spite sanctity
The piety we slaughter
To deny ourselves a life of affinity

The conditionality on which
We can dwell here in safety
The vulnerability of our nature
The immunity we lack
To a life of carnality
That overshadows our spirituality

Giving us the sensibility
Of evil creativity
To garner the amenity of war
Expressing our proclivity
For a security that would be far
With total unreachability

Idowu AdegbileroIwari

Wonderful

Whenever whatever whoever avers
Together we gather to ponder the wonder
The word the Lord ordered the world
Even every man that ever lived upon the earth

To do good you whom He chooses
The creature the Creator created
A cosmopolitan view of the cove and corona of the cosmos
The majestic manner of mankind

The evil they do, and the good, the same people
Only baffles you who would unravel the issue
Of equivocal good and evil, footed in the one universe
Of eventful occurrences conclusively wonderful!

Idowu AdegbileroIwari