

Reading for 2020



Abọru Abọye Àbósíse (pronounced: *Ah-boh-ruu Ah-boh-yay Ah-boh-she-shay*)

Each year, senior **Babalawos** and **Iyánifás** come together to perform **Dafá** (*Ifá Oracle Divination*) on behalf of their communities for the upcoming year. Readings differ from one community to the next because the reading is applicable to followers of that group. If you follow the teachings of the **Ifá Foundation** (e.g., *workshops; Ifáscope & Icofa* readings), this reading is for you.

2020 Path: **Ogbè Òtúrá** (*aka* **Ogbe'Túrá, Ogbè Alárá**)

We look forward to 2020 with much anticipation as the Odù for the year, **Ogbè Òtúrá** comes with blessings from our spirit guides. This will be a significant year where we learn to connect to the spirit side on a deeper level. The **Orí**, **Ancestors**, and **Ègbe** will appear prominently in our lives throughout the year to help us discover our true purpose.

We'll thrive if we embrace new experiences (*as indicated by Ogbè*) and have faith (*as indicated by Òtúrá*) in a benevolent universe. **Ifá** teaches that consistently expressing

Ìwa-Pẹ̀lẹ̀ (*kind and gentle character*) ensures that we not only thrive but are always blessed with **Àṣẹ** (*blessings*). This will be a year of growth and leaving the past behind.

From an esoteric point of view, Odù is read from *right-to-left*, and the right leg of the Odù reflects the circumstances we find ourselves in, and our conscious actions in response to the situation, or that contribute to it. The left leg of the Odù is experienced indirectly as an emotional reaction to the right leg, how are we responding to the experience.

On the right leg, we have **Ogbè** that seeks new experiences through expansion, freeing ourselves from attachments, oppressive situations, prejudices, and basically anything that restrict our movement and growth. On the left leg, we have **Òtúrá** that seeks emotional harmony and spiritual enlightenment, making peace with our emotions and seeking a more profound understanding (*e.g., why are we here?*).

Ogbè Òtúrá comes in **Iré** (*on path*) meaning that as a community we're likely to enjoy the **Àṣẹ** (*blessings*) that the year brings us. **Òtúrá Ogbè** indicated the **Iré**, note how the legs of the Odù swapped position, and mirrors the primary Odù.

Òtúrá helps us find inner peace by accepting an imperfect world, taking the good with the bad, and finding meaning (*value*) even in those situations that hurt us emotionally. **Patakí** (*wisdom anecdote*) say: "There can be no peace without **Ebó** (*sacrifice*)," we must make offerings to ensure that we don't get overwhelmed.

Ogbè is an expansive type of energy that you can't ignore, for **it evokes action** making it possible for you to clear away anything that stands in your way. **Ogbè** will cast a light on a wide range of opportunities for you to consider. **Ifá** is saying that if fear has been holding you back from your dreams, **fear not**, for you have guidance and protection from your spirit guides.

Ogbè empowers your "**free-will**" to make choices in your life. However, we should recognize that we do not always have the awareness to recognize a good opportunity when it appears, nor are we always able to see our destiny path clearly to choose wisely. An over-emphasis on temporal activities and short-term gratification would surely get us in trouble, "**free-will**" needs to be tempered with wisdom and spirituality and **Òtúrá** can provide that.

Òtúrá is concerned with spirituality and the perfection of our character, it connects us with the higher consciousness of **Ẹgbé Ọ̀rún** (*translates to "society in heaven," or group of souls in the Astral plane that act as spiritual guides and protectors, like our ancestors.*)

Òtúrá appears on the *spiritual/emotional* side in this year's Odù. Consistently working with your **Orí**, **Ancestors**, and **Egbe** will allow **Òtúrá** to manifest as **mystic vision** to strengthen your **intuition** (*psychic ability*) enabling you to make wiser choices and pursue the "*life path*" (*blueprint*) that your **Orí** intended for you.

"Idle hands make for a busy mind."

The Odù **Ogbè Òtúrá** encourages us to be productive and expand our awareness through new experiences. You must **find your purpose** because meaningful work not only quiets the busy mind; it helps you stay spiritually grounded to receive divine help.

On an individual level, each of us still need to live up to the principles of **Ìwa-Pèlè** (*kind and gentle character*) and respect **Èwò** (*taboo*), actions that are detrimental to our well-being and that lead us away from our life path. If we don't, we may experience **Ibi** (*off-path: stagnation, resistance, unhealthy attachments*) as indicated by **Òfún Ìká**.

Specific **Èwò** (*taboo*) apply to each Odù and consists of things that we should avoid so that we don't inadvertently block the expression of the Odù, diminish **Iré**, or attract **Ibi**. The **Ajogún** (*disruptive energies*) make themselves known when you go astray and are in serious **Ibi**. It's their role to prod you back into your path by making you very uncomfortable, miserable if needs be. It is not something to fear but to understand that some things are bad for you. It's like when you were a little kid, and you were told not to touch the hot stove, but you did it anyway and had to learn the hard way by getting hurt, the **Ajogún** work that way.

Exoterically speaking, **Odù** and **Òrìṣà** have qualities that are either

- **Funfun** (*white or tranquil*)
- **Pupa** (*red or passionate*)
- **Dúdú** (*black or hidden*)

Note that **Èṣù/Ẹlégbá** resonates with all three, most **Òrìṣà** resonate primarily to one of these.

Odù **Ogbè** and **Òtúrá** are "**Funfun**" and manifests as **light, clarity, purity, and vision**. So, an obvious **Èwò** for an Odù that is "**Funfun**" would be to avoid anything that blocks that light (e.g., *dyes, black or dark clothing, particularly head coverings.*) or disturbs the tranquility. If you consume alcohol, do it only in moderation if at all, as it clouds the mind, and it goes without saying that any mind-altering substances are never suitable for anyone on a spiritual path.

Ogbè Òtúrá also resonates with **Òrìṣà** that are also **Funfun** (*white or tranquil*) like **Obàtálà**, **Ọ̀rúnmìlà**, and **Orí**, and they have something to do with the head, so guarding the head becomes imperative.

Notable **Èwò** include:

- Carrying anything on your head or allowing someone with bad character to touch the crown of your head (**Orí**).
- Pushing yourself or going without sleep that you exhaust your mind (**Obàtálà**).
- Turning away people that seek your guidance and wisdom (**Ọ̀rúnmìlà**).
- Speaking too loudly about your good fortune that it attracts unwanted attention, people's negative energy may contaminate your aura and block your destiny (**Orí**).

Supplemental to the main reading:

Dafá (*Ifá Oracle Divination*) was cast for the following important areas of our lives for more specificity.

Destiny: Ìrosùn Ògúndá

Orí (Ìwòrì Ọsá)

Ìwa-Pẹ̀lẹ̀ (*kind and gentle character*) is **always our destiny**, the reason we are here on this Earth incarnation. So, it is very fortunate to see **Orí** (Ìwòrì Ọsá) appear on this subset of the reading in **Iré** because the blueprint of our destiny is embedded in our **Orí**. This is an indication that we'll have many opportunities to improve our character and move forward in our life path.

Ìrosùn Ògúndá speaks of unselfish act of helping the less fortunate to transform (Ìwòrì Ọsá) your way of thinking and elevates your consciousness with a new perspective so that the **Orí** can show you the way. **Ìrosùn** cautions you to “**think before you act**” and **don't cut corners** to reap the benefits that **Ògúndá** promises. **Ògúndá** is the essence of hard work and the Odù that belongs to Ọriṣà **Ògún** which always insists on truth, fairness and ethical behavior.

Health: Ògúndá Ọkànràn

Onilẹ̀ (Ògúndá Ọsá)

Health is very much dependent on the environment (**Onilẹ̀**) that you find yourself in. **Ògúndá** makes a reference to your work, so you should ask yourself: “is the work you do conducive to your well-being?” “Does your place of work have a good safety record?” We need common sense and honest assessment of our health to determine if change (Ọsá) is in order.

Since **Onilẹ̀** deals with Earth matters, we should consider incorporating more organic and whole foods into our diets.

Success: Ọ̀túrúpọ̀n Ọ̀fún

Ọ̀rúnmilà (Ìrosùn Meji)

Òtúrúpòn Òfún speaks of sharing our wisdom and good fortune for continue success. The message of philanthropy repeats itself throughout the 2020 reading and that raises the question why this behavior is so important this year. **Òrúnmilà** is the Òrìṣà of wisdom and that gives us the first clue, wisdom is achieved through experience and by helping others find solutions to their problems, we indirectly get the benefit of their experiences. It may not have the same intensity as direct experience, but for your level of spiritual awareness, indirect experience is enough.

Òrúnmilà is bringing you the message via **Ìrosùn Meji**, the 5th Odù in the fixed order of 256. This senior Odù speaks of honor, being held in high regard by others but warns of the need to cleanse yourself spiritually and propitiate your **Orí** on a regular basis so that you're not affected by disturbed energy, especially if you're in a position of helping others. It calls for patience, precision (*"measure twice, cut once"*) and follow-thru. Ifá teaches that when **Ìrosùn** came to earth he failed and was cursed because he had not made the prescribed Ebó and had to try again. Success will depend on doing the work that you're required to do and sharing your good fortune to remain in high regard.

Relationships: Òtúrúpòn Ogbè

Obàtálà (Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀ Ogbè)

Òtúrúpòn calls on you to use your intellect to expand (**Ogbè**) your relationships.

The name **Òtúrúpòn** is derived from the words "**Òtú**", which means endurance and "**pòn**" to be truthful; pretenses can be kept up for only so long, so be true to yourself to allow others to love you as you are.

If it seems odd the **Obàtálà** which rules the mind would appear as the Òrìṣà to work with in 2020 to have more fulfilling relationships, it is because we think of relationships as solely fulfilling emotional and/or physical needs. Long term relationships need intellectual stimulus, someone that makes us laugh and can engage us in honest, thought-provoking conversations. We need to cuddle the mind as much as the heart so that relationships don't fizzle out over time.

Òtúrúpòn evokes **Ìwa-Pẹ̀lẹ̀** (*kind, humble, and gentle character*) and warns that what we invite with our thoughts, will take root in our hearts. Don't sabotage your relationships with negative thoughts about your significant other.

Family: Òkànràn Ìrẹ̀tẹ̀

Nana Buuken (Ọ̀bàrà Òfún) aka **Nana Burukú**

Okanran means “*what flows from Okan (the heart)*” and **Okanran** is mainly concerned with getting out of the way of wickedness. But in the context of **Family**, it has more to do with emotional baggage, having a “**heavy heart**” like grief or resentment.

Okanran is balanced with **Obara** (*and vice-versa*) as these Odù have a symbiotic or complementary relationship. **Nana Buuken** (Òbàrà Òfún) will help us create family balance, note that she speaks through **Òbàrà**.

Nana Buuken is the primordial matriarch of the cosmos; the ancestral mother of Babalùaiyé. Her divine presence can be felt in the quiet, muddy marshes and lagoons under a full moon. Celebrated by women, she is sought out as much for her wise counsel as for healing.

Victory over difficulties: Ìrètè Ogbè

Òrúnmìlà (Òfún Ogbè)

Ìrètè is a call to spirituality (*seeking wisdom*) and **Ogbè** is expansion (*freedom from bondage*.) So, in the question of “*Victory over difficulties*,” it means learning to use your “**spiritual tools**” and learning to interact with the spirit realm (e.g., **Òrìṣà, Egúngún**.) The promise is that **Ogbè** will then blow up those obstacles blocking your path.

This is further confirmed by **Òrúnmìlà** (Òfún Ogbè) as the one bringing you the message. **Òrúnmìlà** as you may already know is the Òrìṣà of wisdom and by speaking through **Òfún Ogbè**, he is saying that you have a spiritual advantage over powerful enemies, but you need to learn how to use your spiritual knowledge (e.g., **Rituals, Oríkì, Ebó**) to resolve problems.

Protectors:

Èṣù/Ẹlégbá will have a significant role in keeping us safe as indicated by **Ogbè Meji** (*aka ÈjìOgbè*), the most senior Odù in the fixed order of 256. **Èṣù/Ẹlégbá** is the first Òrìṣà to turn to for guidance and personal protection. If you ever find yourself in danger, invoke him to intervene on your behalf. **ÈjìOgbè** say “*he who is wise, is made wise by his Ori*” and making wise choices is something that **Èṣù/Ẹlégbá** can help you when you ask; even if you’re not a priest, you can learn to use divination tools like “**the Obi**” or “**cowrie shells**” to communicate.

Onilẹ (Ọsẹ Ọyèkú) as guardian of the Earth, will protect us from natural disasters. We must respect and care for “*Mother Nature*” for it makes it possible for us to enjoy prosperity and thrive in a healthy environment. I would like to point out that **Onilẹ** also came up in the area of health.

Most influential energies for 2020:

Orí in the area of “Destiny”

Ancestors - especially your **guardian Ancestor**.

Ègbé Ọrún as indicated by **Ìrètè Meji**

Èsù/Èlégbá as indicated by **ÈjìOgbè**

Ọrúnmilà in the area of “Success” and “Victory over Difficulties”

Nana Buuken (*aka Nana Burukú*) for “Family”

Obàtálà in the area of “Relationships”

Onílẹ̀ in the area of “Health”

Wisdom advice from the elder priests:

Message from *Oluwo Fágbàmílà, Philip John Neimark*:

Each year of *ifa-ing* becomes even more interesting.

As we meet with the Oracle for the blueprint of the new year ahead, we trust the guidance and know that we will have what we need for navigating what is to come.

Each year builds us for the next. I am very pleased to see this year's layout, and I know people across the globe will be as well. Becoming connected into a space of true inner peace allows our natural flow to deliver what is our authentic Truth.

This year's reading will open our lives for an incredibly elevated year ahead with endless opportunities and the ability to truly make something out of what you may have deemed unattainable.

When we create the space-time and settle into opening a deep calm inside, we will experience what is beyond our current view now.

Taking the time to build even stronger connections with our ancestors, our guardian ancestors, and our Egbe community members will allow us access to a certainty of wisdom that will support us to live with a greater sense of purpose.

Making and taking our time to form these bridges will fill our lives with abilities to expand experientially.

I look forward to seeing what develops. I will continue to share my vision and light with each of you from across the globe as I have developed such an incredible feeling for our Ifa community, which I feel is doing important work out there to elevate their lives and the lives their energy touches. Thank you!

With great sincerely and love. **Agbo Ato**

Oluwo Fágbàmílà, Philip John Neimark

Message from *Iyanifa Vassa, Olúfadeke*:

I love that this year's reading will provide us with the tools to activate synchronicity with the 2020 VISION! **Àṣẹ**

I know that this ability will elevate us beyond where we had gone before with each day we chose to cultivate it. It's here!

This is a great time to live more sacredly... developing more of your powerful intuition!

This is definitely a year you will want to do more self-care on your Ori.

We are very exposed to all types of forms of toxicity, and to use the ancient wisdom of our ancestors with the new information from our technology, we can bridge the sacred wisdoms and elevate our lives beyond before.

It is so important to expand with the freedom we have and to open ourselves into what our ancestors brought us here to do even more so. It is a very important time to build our sacred footprint and to be there to help others that are not aware of what Ifa offers.

We are what we have been waiting for. We can embrace these powerful Odu's and elevate!

We are looking forward to sharing the journey with you.

With love and light to illuminate your path...

Always

Iyanifa Vassa, Olúfadeke

Message from **David Graham - Oluwo Ifáfóre**

Abọru Abọye

"2020 has the potential to be a FANTASTIC year for our day to day endeavors, but more importantly, our emotional development and our spiritual growth. The Odù **Ogbe'Túrá** says that the paths are clear and unobstructed, for smooth sailing in our day to day activities (e.g., job, school, relationships). This will allow us the luxury of exploring

spirituality more, where inner peace and alignment with our highest self awaits us, provided we do our work. Nicely enough, the year comes with **strong Iré** and a flip flop of the primary Odù. This tells us that **A.)** Getting the most out of the year will not be difficult if we are in alignment and **B.)** Doing the work will feel smooth and effortless, and will lead to a “leg up” on our spiritual development.

It will be important this year to work with the Òriṣà **Funfun** (*cool, white deities*), namely **Obàtálà** and **Ifá**. It will also be important to keep a calm, cool head and to guard against arrogance. When things are flowing so smoothly and easily, it's easy to let that go to our heads!!! This is a good year for new beginnings; so, start that business, relationship, or enroll in school. Also, strongly consider that ceremony you have been wanting to explore or that **Àṣẹ** you have been wanting to receive. As long as you “**stay cool and do your work,**” the results will be astounding! **Abọru Aboye Àbósise**”

Message from **Dennis Ng** - *Awo Ifátóbi*

2020 is going to be a very intense year with the **Ogbè** energy. **Ogbè** heralds new beginnings and what an appropriate year too ...2020 starts a new decade. Wow! Did the last 20 years just fly by? That's **Ogbè** energy too. Everything's going so fast that if you don't pay attention, you will definitely miss something.

So how do we make sure that we can make the most out of our 2020? The answer lies in the Odù for this year. **Òtúrá** is partnering with **Ogbè** this year. This energy matrix advises us to remain calm and centered amidst the intensity around us. We will need to exercise **Mindfulness** this year so we can be more observant of our interactions with ourselves and others. The practice of **Mindfulness** also recommends being patient. Avoid making impulse and rash decisions. Given the intensity of **Ogbè**, it is easy to make mistakes or decisions we might regret later. Be patient and think long term instead of short term. This is the key to making 2020 your best year ever!

Message from **Javier Lujan** - *Oluwo Ifájuyitan*:

Ogbè Òtúrá is the Odù that was cast for my **life-path** and it is a beautiful Odù. My advice to you for 2020, coming from someone that experiences this Odù first-hand is that **Ogbè** can bring exciting opportunities and experiences but may be overwhelming at times if you overdo it and take on too much. Consequently, **Òtúrá** may express idealism one moment, disillusionment the next. Find your purpose so that you don't scatter your energies chasing too many things.

Meditation is imperative in times of doubt and confusion. Remember to **reserve quality time for yourself** for reflection (**Òtúrá**) to quiet the overstimulated mind and to soothe your emotions. **Àṣẹ**
