

Chief Obafemi Awolowo

Yorùbá Elites and Ethnic Politics in Nigeria investigates the dynamics and challenges of ethnicity and elite politics in Nigeria, Africa's largest democracy. Wale Adebani demonstrates how the corporate agency of the elite transformed the modern history and politics of one of Africa's largest ethnic groups, the Yorùbá. The argument is organized around the ideas and cultural representations of Obafemi Awolowo, the central signifier of modern Yorùbá culture. Through the narration and analysis of material, non-material and interactional phenomena - such as political party and ethnic group organization, cultural politics, democratic struggle, personal ambitions, group solidarity, death, memory and commemoration - this book examines the foundations of the legitimacy of the Yorùbá political elite. Using historical sociology and ethnographic research, Adebani takes readers into the hitherto unexplored undercurrents of one of the most powerful and progressive elite groups in Africa, tracing its internal and external struggles for power.

Chief Obafemi Awolowo (1909-1987) was the leader of Nigeria's Action Group party and the first indigenous Premier of Western Nigeria. He campaigned heavily for developmental change and implemented free primary education and child healthcare policies across the Western Region. Awolowo began work on this autobiography in 1957, at a time when Nigeria's request for self-government had been refused. The work was completed in 1960, the year Nigeria gained its long-awaited independence. Accordingly, this autobiography is dedicated to a 'new and free Nigeria', with the trust that its people will enjoy 'a more abundant life'. This determined, self-made leader here describes his youth, education and politics. He writes of his hope that this tale of stubborn perseverance can become 'a source of inspiration' in itself, and indeed, this account will fascinate anyone with an interest in Africa, the history and politics of Western Nigeria, or a love of insightful political autobiography.

A rich and accessible account of Yoruba history, society and culture from the pre-colonial period to the present.

This book examines the evolution of a distinctive Yoruba community, Remo, and the central role played in this process by the Remo-born Nationalist and Yoruba leader Obafemi Awolowo (1909-87). Since the Nineteenth Century, popular participation has played an important role in challenging or confirming local hierarchies in Remo. This historical dynamic had a significant impact on Awolowo's vision both for Yoruba and Nigerian politics. When he moved into national politics in the 1950s, his career at the national level also gave him the opportunity to shape Remo's political identity. Awolowo was both a product and a producer of Remo politics. Based on a subtle analysis of local-level politics, this book argues that traditional and modern participatory structures play an important role both in Yoruba politics and in the African postcolonial state. At the same time, its focus on Awolowo makes an important contribution to the scholarly debate on one of Nigeria's most important politicians.

AwoThe Autobiography of Chief Obafemi AwolowoCambridge University Press

This book examines the political leadership of Chief Obafemi Awolowo, one of the nationalists' leaders who fought for Nigeria's independence. His model of leadership and perseverance is one to be emulated and studied as he implemented an economic development program that brought far reaching changes to not only Nigeria, but all of Africa.

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This is a history of Chief Awolowo of Nigeria and discusses his leadership style and the impact it has had on African leaders today. It also describes how other African leaders should emulate him in order to lead their people from their current state of poverty into prosperity.

Chief Obafemi Awolowo: The Political Moses is a story of a man who dedicated the entirety of his life to serve humanity and the development of mankind. The Author makes use of the noun Moses to depict the tiresome journey of an activist who fought rigorously alongside others to gain independence for his people. The fact that his ambition to be president of Nigeria was foiled is in itself a matter of discussion transcending the Nigerian political debate till now. As late Chief Odumegwu Ojukwu once said "Awolowo, the Best President Nigeria never had." The book investigates the celebrated treasonable felony of 1962; bringing into focus the case hearings and the political unrest of the period, party system and political parties in Nigeria, Nigeria electoral processes from Pre-colonial era to the fourth republic, review of political prisoners around the world, and making succinct recommendations for Nigeria electoral processes. Chief Obafemi Awolowo: the political Moses unravels a political betrayer by major party members of Action Group likening this to the betrayal of Jesus Christ by Judas Iscariots. It is a must read book for researchers, students of political science and law, lecturers, and anybody that aspires to be great.

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