

THE HISTORY, DEVELOPMENT AND INFLUENCE OF
OTUN BAPTIST CHURCH, SAKI (1902 – 2002)

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ABSTRACT

This Historical Development of Otun Baptist Church, Saki has not at any time been adequately documented in spite of the tremendous influence and impact of the church on Saki Township and Oke-Ogun area at large. Hence, the necessity of such documentation became urgent as the church is already over a century old. The study: "Historical Development of Otun Baptist Church, Saki" is based on historical method through the use of personal interviews, enquiry into past and present events in Saki, and Oke-Ogun area. A meticulous examination of development and experiences of the people of Saki and Oke-Ogun in the past through the Baptist Mission. It relied mainly on the information gathered through interviews, and historical documentation in magazines, programmes and minutes of meetings about the history of Otun Baptist Church and Baptist Mission in Saki. The thesis also attempted to trace the political, religious and spiritual lives of the people in terms of programmes and activities. The development and endeavours of the church in the area of education has served as life changing encounter that has impacted so many lives. The study revealed that individuals, families as well as communities have been greatly influenced and positively affected through the Otun Baptist Church, Saki. The recommendations provided in this study will help church planters, evangelism and mission ministers in doing ministry to affect the society and expand the kingdom of God.

5.3 Recommendations

Having looked into the past and the present of Otun Baptist Church Saki, one can make some recommendations for the future development of the church, such recommendations are as follow:

1. There is the need for the church to be more mission minded. The church will do well by awarding a greater part of the church's budget to the work of missions; the work of the church planting should also be intensified
2. There is a great need for the individual members of the church to engage in Christ-like living that is expected of every disciple of Christ.
3. The relationship of the pulpit and the youth need to be cordial, if not the church stands the risk of losing the youth. More spiritual and evangelistic programmes need to be planned for the youth to satisfy their spiritual thirst.
4. Otun Baptist Church Saki as it is now is moving but there is always room to rely on God for her future development. Leaders and members should be more committed and pray fervently for the Holy Spirit to teach them on where there is the need for improvement.