

THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT  
OF  
ELEYELE BAPTIST CHURCH IBADAN

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## ABSTRACT

This essay deals with the Growth and Development of Eleyele Baptist Church Ibadan. I feel it is necessary to know especially the Christian fold of the growth and development of a Baptist Church in Eleyele area of Ibadan.

The church which was founded in the year 1959 about forty one years ago. Before this thesis, there was no oral, or written history of the church.

Secondly, the writer is the only long serving pastor of the church. He has spent about fifteen years in the church.

Thirdly, the church is located in a Muslim area, where Muslim primary and secondary schools were established before the church was founded. Another reason that made it necessary for the history to be written is to show the import and the need to establish churches in an area mostly dominated by the Muslims. The history will present the Baptist denomination as one that is leading in evangelising people for Christ.

The materials of this study includes both primary and secondary. Some of the sources are oral from elderly people in the area who had stayed for many years in the area before the church was established while some of the information were got from churches in the same association.

I am sure this essay will be a useful material for the scholars and researchers who may write in future on the churches in the association, Ibadan and District in general.

(b) **CONCLUSION**

We have discussed the Growth and Development of Eleyele Baptist Church, Ibadan. It is necessary to analyse the likely future of the Baptist work in Eleyele Ibadan. In the beginning of Christianity in Eleyele area, there was no denomination distinction. However, as the time went on other denominations came up, this brought about division among the Christian fold as a result of difference in their beliefs, polity and practices. However, this division never resulted into conflict among the Christians in Eleyele area. The Development and Growth of Eleyele Baptist Church can be attributed to the efforts of the leaders, the interest of the people and the simplicity of the denomination itself. The practice and policy of local church is also a tool that the church is using: The establishment of a Day Care, Nursery and Primary School is also an access both Christian and non-Christians enjoy this education facility for their children.

There was no discrimination on who to attend the School. It is for all, this is a sought of encouragement to all the people living in Eleyele and environ. The mode of service and the hour spent is encouraging and acceptable by the people.

(c) **RECOMMENDATION**

Although the Church is developing rapidly in all aspects of life, there is still room for improvement. The Church should not be rigid with the mode of worship that had started about forty years ago, there must be variation in the way we worship there must be more life in our worship.

I will also recommend that each member should be more dedicated to the Lord in surrendering all that they have to the Lord.

The Church should think of having a second Baptist Church in Eleyele, this will help in bringing more people to Christ. There are still many illages that need to be evangelised. It is not too much for the Church to have a Secondary School. All these suggestions will make the Church to be more known and developed.