

MUSLIM EVANGELISM IN IGBOORA:
PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

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JUNE, A.D. 2001

ABSTRACT

This Thesis is the study of **MUSLIM EVANGELISM IN IGBOORA: Problems and Prospects**. The interest which led to attempt of this work was borne in me at the wake of two religious riots in the country, that of Kaduna, on February 21, 1999 and that of Saki in Oke-Ogun area of Oyo State on April 25, 2000. These riots were principally caused by some Muslims considered as fanatics (but not al-Mumini; the devoted ones).

One other subsidiary fact is a recent happening in and around **IGBOORA** whereby a Muslim goes about early in the morning preaching, attacking the Bible and some symbols used by christians. I have the conviction that such insinuation is an encouragement of aggressiveness and riots.

Prevention is better than cure. The writer is of the opinion that by examining the Christian approaches to Muslim evangelism and by choosing the good ones and prompt action taken on them, confrontation which can lead to aggressiveness and riots could be prevented.

In this thesis, various approaches of muslim evangelism are critically examined and merits and demerits of each one also listed.

Furthermore the resultant effect of riots is emphasized by bringing into record the outcome of the judicial commission of enquiry of **SAKI** riot as it affected some christian churches overthere. The extra-ordinary

gazette carrying the details is included in the appendix of this thesis.

I am sure this work will be a challenge to every christian to take the Great commission to the Muslims in a better way so as to enhance good relationship among Muslims and christians and subsequent avoidance of grievances, aggressiveness and riots.

CONCLUSION

Of all methods that could be used in Muslim evangelism, two methods person to person and dialogical approach had been found fruitful and peaceful in this thesis.

Religious riots are not palatable to both sides (Christians and Muslims) as this could be read in the Appendix of this research. In order to prevent religious riots therefore, these two methods found viable are to be employed by christian evangelist.

As far as the present situation in Igboora and environs is concerned, these two good methods can bring peace, can prevent riot and can convert through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit.

However, for the christian evangelist to employ these two viable methods in, he/she must know about the theology of the Muslims in order to help presenting the gospel in an acceptable manner. Enough of religious riots in our community, Christians and Muslims should learn how to be tolerant.