



# CHURCH ARISE!

Vol 4 No 5: Sept - Oct, 2001

Promoting a Christian Agenda for the End Times

## NEWS

**Traditionalists in All-out War against Christianity.** Indications are that traditional religionists have declared an all-out war against Christianity! Let's check out a few incidents.

**In Sagamu:** Traditional religionists actually circulated letters to Churches banning all night vigils and other Church activities in the week of the Oro festival. Like the situation we had reported in our last edition in Accra, adherents of traditional religion are demanding for a stricter enforcement of curfew and similar laws this year. However unlike in Accra, the Church in Sagamu seemed unable to do anything about the matter. In fact, the episode was so serious that the Prayer Conference of the Intercessors for Nigeria scheduled for Sagamu July 5 -7 could not hold within the city as the approval for use of the NYSC Orientation Camp was suddenly withdrawn at late hours. A participant at the Prayer Conference which was subsequently shifted to an hotel on the outskirts of Sagamu was visibly sad while recounting the situation to us. Said he, "They shut the city against us. It is quite lamentable".

**In Ikorodu:** the traditional religion-imposed curfew "caused consternation among parents whose female children were forced to sleep at School to write the recent WASC exams" writes a reporter in a meant-to-be- favourable report on *Agemo Festival in Ijebuland*" (Punch July 10, pg 38). The violence attending the Egungun festival **in Ijebu-Igbo** was not directed at Christians in particular, at least on the surface; but it was bad enough to make the Government declare that "no Egungun festival should take place henceforth without express permission of the law enforcement agencies in the state" (Punch July 12, pg 7).

**At Iwolo, Enugu State,** there was direct confrontation between traditionalists and unyielding catholic worshippers on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August leading to the razing down of 9 houses. Chairman of Ezeagu local government has waded into the crisis promising compensation for the Church members whose houses were razed down. A special committee has also been set up while 35 persons including 2 masquerades have been arrested for the arson. (Punch Aug. 14, page 8)

However, the "mother" of all efforts by traditionalists to reclaim the land for a possession was the recent **World Orisha Festival** held at **Ile-Ife** (with some activities also marked at **Osogbo and Oyo**). Thank God for Christians who rose to the occasion in a military manner with prayers and night-vigils, the festival was not anything like the grand carnival envisaged for it. In fact the Festival was badly upstaged when on the opening day → contd on pg 2

**LET YOUR GENTLENESS BE KNOWN TO ALL MEN. THE LORD IS AT HAND.** (Phil 4:5)

## RCCG targets 50 million souls for Christ

The Redeemed Christian Church of God has set a target of 50 million new souls to be won for the Lord next year, which will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Church. The General Overseer, Pastor E.A. Adeboye who will be 60 years old by then has already made it clear that meeting this target is the only birthday gift that will be acceptable to him from his ministers. "I don't want any sponsored congratulatory messages for my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. I want souls.." he told a gathering of Ministers during the Ministers' Conference preceding the Church's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in August.

## Mbang now heads WorldMethodism

The Prelate of the Methodist Church of Nigeria and president of the Christian Association of Nigeria, Dr Sunday Mbang, has been installed the President of the World Methodist Conference and has therefore become the head of the Methodist Church worldwide. He was voted in at the 18<sup>th</sup> Methodist World Conference in Brighton, England.

## Archbishop of York says Homosexuality is divinely Ordered

The second most senior Churchman in the Church of England, the Most Revd David Hope has recently commissioned a new catechism for the Anglican Church. A section of the catechism says that "homosexuality may well not be a condition to be regretted but to have divinely ordered and positive qualities...Homosexual Christians should be encouraged to find in their sexual preferences such elements of moral beauty as may enhance their general understanding of Christ's calling". This of course, according to the Bible is arrant non-sense, but the Archbishop apparently does not think so. In his foreword, he describes the catechism as "a celebration of Christian living".

Thankfully, not all Anglican clergy share this unscriptural and shameful view. At the last Lambeth Conference, the Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Carey, supported by African and Asian bishops passed a resolution saying homosexual acts were "incompatible with Scriptures". (Punch July 8, pg 1)

## Killing in Church in Burundi

Rebels in Burundi killed 3 people, including 2 boys, and wounded 6 others when they attacked a Church where civilians had sought refuge, early Tuesday August 28. (Punch Aug. 30, pg 14).

## In Ikeja, Nigeria: another Marian Apparition

Over 20,000 people have reportedly visited the Marian apparition that is located at apartment P3 Room 9 Nigerian Airforce Base, Ikeja in search of healings and miracles → pg 2

### **Traditionalists at war!** (Continued from pg 1)

Mrs Stella Obasanjo came calling in Ile-Ife to lay the foundation of the new NTA Ile-Ife station. Most of the (open) activities of the festival were subsequently restricted to the Obafemi Awolowo University campus. Pressed to comment on the success of the Festival, one of the key members of the Local Organizing Committee was overheard to sputter “W....A... is a thief!”. He was referring to one of the chief organizers/priests who was alleged to have ‘cornered all the dollars’ brought in by the hapless expatriate participants at the festival!

### **More on Orisha Festival at Ile-Ife**

A significant event during the Orisha Festival week was the regular radio programme on the **Osun State Radio** on *Odu Ifa* where this time around (Tuesday, August 7), a Babalawo from **Ila-Orangun** harped vigorously against people who are leaving the traditional religions for Christianity. He threatened that those who do so, no matter their status “even be it a Royal Father”, will be dealt with by [spiritual] clubs/hammers reserved for them! Though such a flagrant ‘unYoruba’ threat more or less only betrays utter desperation, nevertheless Christians should not take it lightly. Participants at the World Orisha Festival were not left completely without a Christian witness. For a copy of an article/tract released by Church Arise! for the event, check our library or request for an electronic copy via e-mail.

**Reaching unto the Roots:** Meanwhile the Gospel of the Master continues to triumphantly make in-roads into the palaces. For instance the Full Gospel Businessmen Fellowship at a very powerful meeting launched a Chapter of the Fellowship at the Ooni’s palace on Tuesday July 17th with many Obas and traditional chiefs in attendance; while the Association of Christian Kings also had a strategic meeting at Warri in August. Among the graduands at the Redeemed Christian Church of God’s Bible College on August 8 were HRM, Oba Olatunde Falabi Lambeloye III, the Akire of Ikireland, and his Olori. The people who sat in darkness are indeed seeing a great light!

### **Rwandan Priest taken into hiding by Italian Church**

A Rwandan Priest wanted by a UN war crimes tribunal to face charges of genocide is reportedly being hidden by the Roman Catholic Church in Italy. Fr Athanase Seromba has been accused of the murder of over 2,000 people during the 3-month massacre of Tutsis and moderate Hutus in Rwanda in 1994. The Italian Government has so far refused the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda’s request to hand Fr Seromba over for a trial at the UN Court in Arusha. The Vatican also has refused to comment. (Punch July 17, pg 17)

**Marian Apparition (contd)** On Good Friday, April 12, Mrs Christianah Ejembi and her daughter claimed to have been visited by ‘Mary’ and have a “lucent impression that registers so vividly inside one of the blades of a single framed 5-louvre window” to show for it. (Punch July 7, pg A16). There has been an explosion in Marian apparitions all over the world in the past decade (see Vol 3 No 6). The problem with the apparitions is the clearly unscriptural messages often associated with them. The messages border

largely on Interfaithism – oneness of all religions, and the subjugating of the Lord Jesus to this “Queen of Heaven” often, for instance through the massive promotion of “saying the Rosary”. The Scriptures is quite clear on what the Christian response to such claims should be: “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed” (Galatians 1:8)

### **SHARIA: Moslem Council insists on Parallel Sharia**

**Police:** The Supreme Council for Sharia in Nigeria (SCSN) says the establishment of the *hisba*, a militant Moslem body that enforces Sharia law is a necessary part of the legal system and therefore warned the FG to stop its alleged underground moves “to tactfully hoodwink states that have adopted the Sharia legal system to disband the *hisba*” (Punch July 1, page 1). Meanwhile, it has been confirmed that followers of Osama Bin Laden took part in the recent religious war in Bauchi State between Christians and Moslems. Many of these mercenaries were imported from outside the country. “The fundamentalists constitute the major security threat to Nigeria”, a Presidency source was quoted (The News Aug 25)

### **Ex-Sudanese Prime Minister cautions on Sharia**

Ex Sudanese PM, Sheik Sadiq El Mahdi has advised the protagonists of Sharia in Nigeria to take time to actually find out whether the demand for its adoption was genuinely the wish of majority of the citizens or that of a few privileged politicians, who want to use it to realise their selfish interests. (Punch July 2, pg 10).

### **Sharia Amputation gathers momentum....**

Following once again the leadership of Zamfara state, other Sharia states are going forward with amputations. Still at the limbs stage, Sokoto state carried out its first amputation at 4.00pm on Friday July 6. The offender, Mallam Umoru Aliyu had been found guilty of stealing a sheep valued at N3,000. His right wrist amputated and buried is expected to deter him from repeating such a crime. However to guarantee that Mallam Aliyu smiles and rebuffs human rights activists ready to take up the case, he was paid N50,000 from the coffers of the state. Sokoto Justice Commissioner however insisted that the payment was in accordance with the Islamic law (Guardian August 2, pg 64) and not a ‘keep-shut, keep smiling’ inducement. The same day the amputation was carried out, another amputation, of 24-year old Mallam Lawali Garba Minanata has been ordered.

**.....With death on it’s trail:** Meanwhile back in Zamfara, Lami Lawali, wife of Sharia’s first amputee Lawali Isah, could not bear the sight of her limbless husband. On seeing her husband who had just returned from the government’s rehabilitation centre (for medical treatment and financial inducement), the poor lady fainted and collapsed. She never recovered from the shock as she died within a week. (Punch July 7, pg A9)

It is sad however to observe that the Sharia law seems not to be as stringent when it comes to more well-placed offenders. For instance a news report on the Osun State TV on 31<sup>st</sup> August says 3 Sharia judges in Zamfara have been indicted of taking bribes. Rather than lose their limbs however, they will only lose half their salaries.

## **A Macedonian Call – for YOU**

The Macedonian Initiative, the Christian body that is making a bold practical stand for Christianity the Northern states urgently needs your help! The MI is already doing a yeoman's job trying to ameliorate the suffering of Christians involved in the various Sharia clashes. So far several Church buildings as well as individual Christians are being rehabilitated. Millions of naira have been raised and spent; but one nagging problem is that concerning children of widow left by the religious riot. The MI is calling for individual Christians to adopt these children to meet the cost of the basic needs such as feeding, health, clothing and education. For more information contact Pastor (Mrs) Chinyere Musa at the MI Secretariat at 1 Apostolic Faith Campground road, Anthony Village, Lagos (e-mail macedonianinitiative@usa.net) or call at any branch of Haggai Community bank or Citizens International bank to make a direct donation. It's no use moaning Sharia in the comfort of our homes unless we respond in practical ways as these. We must be our brothers' keepers.

**6 Million Expected at Bonnke's Ibadan Rally**The Great Gospel Power Crusade organized by the Christ for all Nations) has been scheduled for Nov. 7 – 11. Venue is the Trans Amusement Park, Ibadan. Be there if you can.

## **Ritual Killing Unabating**

**In Osogbo**, 3 persons, agents of some herbalists who specialise in money-making rituals within and outside Osun State have been nabbed in Osogbo the state capital. (Punch July 22, pg 1)

**In Warri**: Kingsley Samuel, a child trafficker, was arrested on Sunday (Punch Thurs 12 July, page 8) while trying to sell an 8 year old girl in Warri. Girl stolen from Ahoada in Rivers State.

**In Maiduguri**: Jummai Hassan, 13 year old, confessed to have killed 48 persons, mainly children, for ritual purposes. She said she was initiated into the business by one Ashade Akinoni, a worker in the Federal Office of Statistics, Maiduguri, who specializes in killing adults. The 2 occultists first mesmerize their victims by "a powdery substance" sprayed on their food. They are then killed and their hearts removed. A troubling angle was added to this already stomach-turning satanic business, when the ritual killers revealed they are investing monies so-obtained for building 'churches' (Punch July 29, page 1).

**Valucard continues grassroot incursion in Nigeria**: Valucard continues its campaign to wrest the Nigerian economy from 'Cash'. In an advert in the Punch (Aug 24 pg 31), the American Consulate announced a disposal sale. Payments can only be made by Valucard (no other card accepted) or in cash only if N50 notes are used (no other denomination, including the more convenient higher denominations, accepted). Of course this is only a cautious beginning into what is coming, as spelt by some other organizations in Nigeria, notably the USAID (see Vol 3 No 5). In the meantime, Valucard has announced that Mobil and Total petrol stations will be part of their outlets during their next stage – the Commercialisation Stage –of growth.

## **China to issue 'smart' ID cards**

CNN on June 12 reported: China has revealed plans to issue new 'smart' identity cards to enable automatic [identification] of the country's 1.26 billion strong population. The new high-tech plastic cards will be embedded with a micro-chip to store personal information. The new ID cards may be used first for college students next year so they can use them to apply for bank loans. Meanwhile in Nigeria, the much awaited re-awarding of the ID card contract has been carried out. SAGEM S.A. of France, one of the world leaders in the production of micro-chip embedded cards, will be implementing the project for a sum of \$238 million.

Just as any citizen will find it difficult refusing to obtain his/her micro-chip embedded ID card, it will be even more difficult for any to survive in the near future, without having this micro-chip implanted into their bodies (especially when they would have been enhanced to handle many vital applications and resources). The Word of God clearly affirms that the anti-Christ will certainly propose this 'reasonable' way of solving most of mankind's problems when his time comes. Staying connected with Jesus, in every true sense of the word, is the only way out (1 Jhn 5:5)

## **Floods cause havoc around the globe**

Severe flooding and storms all across Poland has resulted in the death of at least 30 people (Punch Aug. 2, pg 33), while 50,000 have been reported to have been rendered homeless in the flooding at Fagge, Woliwo and Okpokpo layouts in Onitsha where homes have been submerged by floods (Punch Aug. 14, pg 8). In Kano, floods following a heavy downpour on Monday August 27 has left at least 40 people dead. (Punch Aug. 30, back page)

## **WWF calls for children empowerment**

The acting President of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Hon. Sara Morrison has called for the empowerment of children on environmental issues. (Punch July 26, pg 34). Though she seemed to restrict herself only to matters on hygiene on this occasion, it is an open secret that WWF and similar agencies would want children to be taken away from the influence of their parents and taught the new-age beliefs which advocates for an Earth-centred value system rather than Man-centred system taught by the Bible. The Earth is actually seen as a living being, the goddess Gaia. This is the key issue in Agenda 21 paper already written by the Earth Council and which will be pushed at the Rio + 10 meeting in Jo'burg next year. (see also Vol 4 No 4 on how the new educational curriculum in Nigeria could be channeled to reflect these values)

**"We need a new way of governing the whole planet. The problems we face today are bigger than any single country."** --- Children's Task Force on Agenda 21, Rescue Mission Planet Earth.

**Food for Thought**: "A 40 year old mother was mauled to death by a cougar in North California. The cougar was traced and killed a week later. Later, Folsom City Zoo set up a trust fund for the cougar's cub and collected \$21,000 immediately. A fund set up for the

woman's children aged 8 and 5 has raised only \$4,000." (Punch July 22, pg 22).

**France on the road to Eugenics:** Eugenics is that discredited attempt to breed better human beings by destroying individuals that are perceived to be faulty. Now France may be solidly on that pathway as Judges at the Cour de Cassation, the highest court of appeal, has ruled that handicapped children are entitled to compensation if their mothers were not given the chance of abortion. A group protecting handicap people, **the Collective to Stop Discrimination against the Disabled (CCH)**, has spelt out the implications of this landmark ruling. "This is a real act of phobia", the CCH angrily lashed out. "Now parents are going to be attacked and seen as irresponsible because they gave birth to a handicapped child". Doctors on their own part say the fear of being sued for a misdiagnosis would encourage them to recommend abortions at the smallest hint of a disability. (Punch July 15, pg 11)

**51 year old Lesbian gives birth to brother's baby:** In the United States, a 51 year old Lesbian who "desired to be pregnant" but did "not want to have a heterosexual relationship" was implanted with sperms from her own brother and has now given birth to the baby. The revelation has provoked new fears that artificial insemination and similar techniques are being misused, or should we say abused. The event was reported in the Internet medical journal, Reproductive Biomedicine Online.

#### **Taliban Movement bans Internet**

Afghanistan's ruling Taliban Movement has banned the use of the Internet in the country. It claims the decision is taken so as to stop access to vulgar, immoral and anti-Islamic material. (Punch July 17, pg 26). The children of this world are wise in their own generation.....

#### **A sad spate of suicides...**

The wife of former German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl has committed suicide on July 5 at the age of 68. Suffering for 7 years from a painful sunlight allergy that virtually kept her a prisoner in-doors. She had to "spend the last 15 months without daylight on her house" and could leave and enter the home only in total darkness. Her allergy was triggered by a penicillin treatment in 1993, but worsened last year. Medical science claims the condition is untreatable. (Punch July 6, pg 13)

In a similar issue, a 28 year old messenger with Quaan'Pan Local Government Council of Plateau State, Mr Isaku Dakop on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August shot himself in the chest with a locally made gun. He allegedly told some neighbours about his inability to eat solid food due to ill health. (Punch Aug. 26, pg 8).

A young school-aged girl from Akure set herself ablaze with a gallon of kerosene, because she was jilted by her boyfriend. Story in Punch July 31, pg 11

#### **LOCAL NEWS**

##### **Campus Christian Community meetings**

Since the Orisha Festival, many discerning Christians on the OAU campus have been noticing strong opposition to (and in most cases, subsequent decline in) their prayer life and Bible Study. Unpalatable events being reported also suggest that the spiritual climate of the Campus might have been compromised. Thank God, exactly a week after

the Orisha adherents concluded the Ile-Ife aspects of their mini-Festac, Dr Daniel Olukoya, General Overseer of the MFM Church was around at the same venue on his scheduled meeting organized by the OAU Christian Community. The focus of the powerful prayer meeting was on Deliverance – both for individuals and the University Community as an entity. The next outreach of the Christian Community is scheduled for Nov 23-24 when Bishop David Oyedepo will be ministering.

##### **GETHEMANE PRAYER SCHOOL ILE-IFE**

All is now set for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ile-Ife Prayer School of the Gethsemane Prayer Ministry, Ibadan. The Prayer School has been scheduled for Thur, Nov 8 - Monday 12. Tentative Venue is the All Souls Chapel of the OAU. Rev. Moses Aransiola will be personally leading the team of other servants of God to practically impart a fresh anointing for Prayer into your life. For more information call GPM at Ibadan (02-8103578) or any of these members of the executive of the 1<sup>st</sup> School at Ile-Ife Pastor J. Goke Siyanbade New Covenant Church, Sabo Dr Joshua Ojo Church Arise! , 7 OAU Conf. Centre Pastor (Dr) Ayanwale RCCG Gloryland, Ibadan road

\*PS. This is calling all alumni of the 1<sup>st</sup> school to a final planning meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> GPM Prayer School scheduled for Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Sept at the All Souls Chapel. Time 6.00 – 7.00 pm **prompt**. Please take this as your formal invitation to the meeting and pass the message round. God bless.

##### **CALM PUBLIC LECTURE ON ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT:**

Find out details of the impending One World Government which for space and discretion sake, we could not publish on the pages of your favourite end-time newsletter, Church Arise! What are the stakes? How does it all affect you? What, for instance, are the implications of the Microchip Revolution? What must you do now? Bring along a friend and find out

**Speakers: Dr Joshua Ojo and**

**Elder (Dr) Abayomi Adebayo**

**Date: Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2001 Time: 4.30 – 6.30 pm**

**Venue: All Souls Chapel (Junior Auditorium), OAU, Ile-Ife Admission is FREE.**

##### **THE TIME IS FULFILLED**

Have you got your copy of The Time is Fulfilled? This is a book containing all editions of Church Arise! from Vol 1 No 1, to Vol 3 No 6, plus other additional materials. All these materials are organized subject-by-subject, and an index is also provided. Describing the book, Pastor A.A. Haastrup, then Osun State Pastor of the Redeemed Christian Church of God wrote: "A lot of efforts has undoubtedly gone into sourcing, arranging and making the vital information in this book available... I believe God will use this book to wake up the Church and reach Unbelievers with the signs of the times"

Cover price is N250. For postage per book in Nigeria, add N260, or Europe, add N680; and for USA/Canada, add N860. Generous discount on Cover price available for interested marketers and distributors. Available at: {Ile-Ife} OAU Bookshop, GTM; {Ibadan}, UI Bookshop, SU Bookshop, Gethsemane Prayer Ministry, Jesus Embassy (RCCG) Bookshop, Cocoa House; {Redemption Camp} CRM

Bookshop, {Lagos} Ipfy Music Konnections, Palmgrove, {Abuja} ECWA Church Wuse 2, Winners Chapel

## LETTERS

“There has been no time as perilous as [the present time] in the history of mankind. There is perversion, lawlessness, natural disasters, wars and rumours of war everywhere on the surface of the earth. This is in accordance [with] this Scripture that “darkness shall cover the earth and gross darkness the people” (see Isa. 60:1-3 ), but this is the time for the Body of Christ to arise and shine, for the time of glorification (manifestation of the Life of Christ in us) has come in the midst of gross darkness and turmoil. It is in the midst of thick darkness that light shines most.

“Jesus is coming for a glorious and blameless Church! He is not coming for a weak cornered Church waiting to ‘escape’; we are to occupy till He comes... All power on earth and in heaven has been given to our Lord, let us arise and shine as we manifest the Sonship in us!

**Akanni Olatokunbo, Ile-Ife**

“The Lord will continue to prosper you as you continue winning souls into His Kingdom through gospel material in Jesus name. ...Please, be assured of our continuous prayers. God bless you richly”

**Pastor E.A. Adeboye**

**Reminder on Body of Christ meeting for September and October:** The Body of Christ City Altar meeting for September will come up on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>, while that for October will come up on Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup>. Venue remains the Local Government Department of the OAU, opposite NACETEM at 3.00 pm. Pastor Odun Orioke will be leading the September meeting. Enquiries to Pastor Femi Oluwaleye, Rhema Chapel Satellite Church, Ile-Ife. All Christians invited to participate.

## Jeffrey Archer goes to Jail

Noted best-selling author and former deputy-chairman of the British Conservative Party is to spend 4 years in jail for perjury – lying under oath. Mr Archer had denied having had sex with a prostitute, a matter which was later proven. His associates are particularly distressed that Mr Archer is being jailed at a “Category C” jail, at Cam Hill, where the goings are known to be pretty tough (Guardian, Aug 4, pg 5)

**Pretoria Court makes case for Commercial Sex workers :** A High Court in Pretoria, South Africa, has ruled that it is unconstitutional to punish people who receive money in return for sex. The court based its argument on the fact that the givers of the money are not being penalised. It however expressed opposition to keeping brothels which it reasoned could be an avenue for human trafficking and exploitation. See the subtle gradual shift in society’s perception of morality! Sex outside marriage (with its attendant grave consequences on the life of the individuals involved and of society in general) is precisely the reason many people will end up in hell (see Eph. 5:5-6)

## Indian PM puts Christians on the spot

Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee has recently (18<sup>th</sup> August) accused unnamed Christian

groups of carrying out “forced conversions”. While praising the groups for their work in neglected regions of the country, the PM said it amounts to abuse of position when these groups explain to their benefactors what motivates them to their sacrificial self-giving! Thankfully, Indian’s main opposition Congress Party are taking up issues with the PM on the potentially inflammatory statement. ‘How can the prime minister make such a comment?’ asked Mr Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi the opposition leader, adding that the remarks threatened to fray “the secular religious fabric of India”. (The Punch Aug 22, pg 11).

## Meanwhile Christians face real “forceful conversion” elsewhere

In Laos, Police have been arresting several church leaders on trumped-up charges of involvement in religious activities and foreign political movements. Jubilee Campaign said police was using threats and intense pressure to get the leaders and also members of their families to renounce their faith, but so far none has yielded. The report concluded that “recently, the police have been unsuccessful in using a variety of tactics to frighten believers in the Muang Songkhone district, Savannakhet province, to renounce Christianity. (Christian Hotline Weekly July 25, pg 16)

**And in St. Petersburg,** Pastor Dimitri Shatrov Jr told Assist News Service that he has received death threats from mobsters who want to seize the huge church he is building. Located in a prime spot in the city, the Good News Mission Church, when completed, will be the largest Protestant Church in Russia. The Mafia wants the prime spot for its own devilish activities. Please pray for Pastor Shatrov.

## US Expected Rwanda genocide

“The US government fully anticipated mass killings in Rwanda ... but still found “insufficient justification” for retaining UN peacekeepers in the country, according to declassified documents released in Washington on Monday” 20<sup>th</sup> August, reported the Punch (August 22, pg 14). Rather US diplomats advocated “an orderly withdrawal” of the Rwanda-based UN force known as UNAMIR that some believe could have helped protect civilians” the Punch continued. In the resulting 100 day gruesome massacre, as many as 800,000 Tutsi and moderate Hutu were decimated in cold blood. (See topical issue for allegation that advanced countries sponsor/encourage mass killings in the poor nations)

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

### P&G and Perennial Satanism accusation

The President of Procter and Gamble is not involved in Satanism. Few Christians will doubt this assertion now with so many respected men of God saying they are so convinced. In 1997, the well-respected Jacob Prasch of Moriel, a cult-exposing ministry, had written to debunk this 20 year old allegation pointing out the AMWAY organization, competitors with P&G on some products, as at least one group behind such rumour..

However, the issue is again in the news; and once again P&G is collecting/ ‘wresting’ endorsements from notable and respected men of God, particularly in

Africa. Indeed, some of the statements have been quite measured. Pastor Adeboye for instance wrote “in view of your express denial and the evidence provided by your Mr Timi Adetona all the way from London, we now believe the rumour [of involvement in Satanism] is false”. Explaining further to ministers of the RCCG, Pastor Adeboye said “.... and even if someone belongs to Satan and he comes to the open and says I denounce Satan, as far as I’m concerned, that settles the matter”. Similar or somewhat stronger statements of endorsement were issued by PFN’s Bishop Mike Okonkwo, Dr Isak Burger of The Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Ray McCauley. Other men of stature who had risen to defend P&G of this same allegation in the past include Billy Graham, the Most Rev. Daniel E. Polarczyk (Catholic Archbishop of Cincinnati), and General Superintendent of the General Council of the Assemblies, Thomas Trask (Christian Hotline Week, July 11, pg 6). This is not to mention the various popular talkshow hosts who were also roped into the story, somehow from time to time.

And this is what got us writing this article. Honestly, one wonders if the impact of the good publicity from such powerful ‘spokesmen’ have not more than compensated several times over, for whatever the negative economic impacts of the rumours were. And surely the so-called competitors peddling the rumours should be aware of that much; rather than continuing making over the years the same cheap allegations that are easily disproved and turned round to great advantage by the opponent!

Our concern at Church Arise! however, is the effects all this repeated accusation-clearing cycle could have on Society at large and Christians in particular. We wrote earlier to point out how the enemy is waging war of attrition to “unprepare” the masses for certain crucial events he are planning to come out with; such that when those events finally break in like a flood, most people would not be able to respond as sharply as they ought to (Vo3 No2, March-April, 2000).

The 20-year old accusation and clearing of P&G of the one same issue – open Satanism - might have nothing to do with economics at all in the long-run. It might even have not much to do with the P&G, as any organization could have been picked upon. It might as well be a dual way of gauging public opposition to open Satanism over the years and at the same time getting the average man to lose interest entirely in the subject matter.

Church, do not give in. Refuse to lose your sharp edge in abhorring every appearance of evil. As Salt and Light, we must continue to preserve sanity and godliness in Society till our Master comes for us. Amen.

### **US Lower House bans Human Cloning**

The Republican-controlled US House of Representatives has voted (265 to 162) to make it a federal crime to clone people or produce children or to create embryos for medical research. A 10-year imprisonment/\$1 million dollar penalty is attached. However the matter

still has to pass through the democrats-controlled Senate before it could become a law. (Guardian Aug 2, pg 1). Meanwhile in the United Kingdom, approval has been given for some aspects of cloning which the government feels is invaluable for mankind.

### **Scientific Laws may not be immutable afeall**

Scientists are concurring with a strange conclusion that threatens the very definition of Science: that the so-called scientific laws may not have remained unchanged all over the ages after all. (Guardian August 17, page 1). This will have great implications especially in the Creation-Evolution Debate as one of the basic assumptions of evolutionists is that not only the scientific laws, but all processes occurring today are exactly what they were some hypothetical billions of years previously. With such assumptions, ages of millions of years can then be ascribed to fossils in the geologic column.

### **Hallucinogenic Drugs used for Crowd Control**

South Africa spymaster, Winter Basson, has revealed that SA manufactured or bought hallucinogenic drugs for use in crowd control. The former military officer also alleged that from TV footages shot during the Gulf War, he believed that the US used hallucinogenic drugs in getting Iraq’s elite troops to surrender en-masse. (Times of India, pg 7, August 18). Microchip implanted in a body can produce the same effects.

### **Microchip implant in eye might restore vision**

Doctors at the Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Illinois, USA are experimenting with microscopic chips implanted in the eyes of people suffering from retinal damage to restore their vision. Under the close scrutiny of the US Food and Drug Administration, 6 people have already been implanted. The procedure is described in the report by Reuters on July 20. The chip, called the Artificial Silicon Retina (ASR), is about 2 millimeters in diameter and 1/1000 of an inch in thickness. It requires no batteries or wires and is completely self-contained. It contains 3,500 microscopic solar cells that convert light into electrical impulses and works by replacing damaged photoreceptors, the light-sensing cells of the eye.

Over 20 million people worldwide stand to benefit from this latest technology. As we have always been saying, by the time the antichrist will suggest mandatory global chip implantation (only then will the technology be commercially viable, see article in Vol 4 No 4), few people will dare speak against the move, on account of the tremendous great benefits to be accrued therefrom. Yet the microchip, inserted in humans, fits all the Biblical description of the Mark of the Beast! (Rev 13: 16).

### **Other ‘Dividends’ of GSM**

A Sri Lankan high school student was handed over to the Police after examiners found a mobile phone under bandages on his arm, with a hands-free microphone pinned under his shirt collar and an earphone in his hand. “He would cover his ear with his palm and get instructions to answer the GCE A’ Level paper last week” Police said. (Punch Aug. 14, pg 13).

**“And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work”** - The Master, in Revelations 22:12

## Topical Issue Continued from back page (Population issues)

that can account for a sudden jump from an annual increase in human population of only 15 people per million to the current annual increase of 20,000 per million. If anything, it should have been the other way round as most of the world's greatest wars, famines, pestilences and aggressive birth control campaigns have happened only in the past 100 years or so. If evolution theory (the only alternative to believing in a supernatural and moral God) were not involved, nobody would ever dare to make an assertion as preposterous as this!

On the other hand however, quite excellent agreement with current world population figures results if we make the very conservative assumptions of an initial population of only two people growing at an average annual rate of 0.5 percent (one-fourth the present rate) over 4,000 years. The Bible actually teaches that the current population has resulted from 4 couples (Noah and his family) starting some 5,000 years ago. As we have discussed in an earlier edition (Vol 4 No 2), evolutionists cannot agree with a global Noahian flood as that will make complete nonsense of all their current interpretations of the fossil record.

The big question however is why are evolutionists at the fore-front of the population number campaign when they should be the last people to be heard talking about it? The answer is neither far-fetched nor hidden. All their polemics about the dangers of the inevitable population explosion ALWAYS end with an urgent call for population control. As an example let's return to the publication of the Population Action International that we started with. First the cold facts are graphically explained:

"...One demographer calculated in 1974 that ... in seven centuries, only one square foot of land would be available for each human being. Within 6,000 years, the mass of humanity would form a sphere expanding outward from the earth at the speed of light..."

And then, as usual, follows the punch: Within a century or two.... Population growth will decline significantly from current rates or end altogether. ...The biggest question is whether this growth will slow or end due to decreases in birth rate or increases in death rates, or both."

Population control is clearly not merely a question of controlling the birth-rate, but also that of the death-rate of the population as well! Of course, only campaigns for lowering birth rates can be openly prosecuted. Depending on the country involved, the means of accomplishing this often ranges from the promotion of the use of contraceptive/abortifacients and outright abortion to infanticide, and perverted sexual acts as homosexuality. Other birth control means suggested are more stringent, calling for voluntary or compulsory mass sterilization. Here is a famous suggestion in this respect "One plan often mentioned involves the addition of temporary sterilants to water supplies or staple food. Doses of the antidote would be carefully rationed by the government to produce the desired population size" (The Population Bomb, 1968, pg 79).

The above suggestion was made in the 1960s. Most evolutionists/new agers however believe it is now too late to control the population by birth control alone. Death control is inevitable. For instance Ted Turner, CNN owner and UN avid supporter has been quoted as saying that: "A total population of 250-300 million

people, a 95% decline from present levels, would be ideal" (quoted by Donald McAlvany, The McAlvany Intelligence Advisor, June 1996. MIA, P.O. Box 84904, Phoenix, AZ 85071), while Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and leader of the World Wildlife Fund WWF, has been quoted as saying: "If I were reincarnated I would wish to be returned to earth as a killer virus to lower human population levels" (as Quoted by Kathleen Marquardt, "Are You Ready for Our New Age Future?" *Insiders Report* (American Policy Center, December 1995))

In view of all these disconcerting FACTS, one cannot just dismiss with a wave of the hand claims that the HIV virus, for instance, was engineered in the laboratory for the chief purpose of decimating African and Asian populations (the ones with the highest population growth rates). For instance the book *Final Notice* by Barry Smith cited various allegations and evidences against the UN health body, the World Health Organization WHO, as being the engineer of AIDS. One of the evidences cited is this entry in the bulletin of the WHO volume 47 page 259, 1972: "An attempt should be made to see if viruses can in fact exert selective effects on immune function. The possibility should be looked into that the immune response to the virus itself may be impaired, if the infecting virus damages, more or less selectively, the cell responding to the virus". Any one's guess is as good as any other's as to whether the "attempt" was actually made or not. Other evidences are even more compelling and shocking! (See also Dr Ojeih's claims in *Tell No 33* August 13). Other ways of increasing the death rate such as euthanasia, economic sabotage, war-mongering, etc have been attributed to developed nations, particularly America's CIA throughout the decades. (see allegation of US use of biological warfare in Iraq on pg 6 and condoning of the Rwanda massacre on pg 5)

All the facts and figures being cited might as well be correct; but clearly, all the humanistic solutions being proffered (mass extinctions, homosexuality, microchip implantation, etc) are hardly any solutions at all but disasters. They offer but a little reprieve now and a worsening of the crises (through immorality and ungodliness) soon after! The ultimate agenda in humanism is the achievement of a global One World Government, that is anti-christian in character and philosophy.

On the other hand, these very population facts and figures, apart from confirming recent creation according to dates derivable from the Bible, also give us solid assurance that the coming of the Lord for us is imminent. Call this escapism if you will, but the fact is that the whole world is doomed and there is no other way of escape but for the personal intervention by a loving omnipotent God. And very soon too!

Why not check out our Library/Secretariat when next you are around Ile-Ife? We are opened 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Monday – Friday. Break/Prayers between 12.30 – 2.00 pm. All our services are free.

## **EXHORTATION: JOIN THE BATTLE FOR THE SOUL OF NIGERIA**

I want to tell you that every government, anytime in history, has a power base and most often these powers are gotten from the occult. But now I believe we have a government that has nothing to do with occultism. It has its hope in God alone. If the Church fails to realize this and be ready to pay the price, this government will fail. The Church should be challenged by the level of devotion and sacrifice the occult make to achieve diabolic objectives and should rise to the task of sacrificing their time and energy in prayers to cause this government to succeed.

One scripture that will help you to understand the crucial role the Church is called by God to play in the present dispensation is Exo. 17:9-13. In this scripture, Israel had a battle against Amalek and Moses went to the mountain to intercede. As long as Moses' hand was up, Joshua who was leading the army in the war front was winning. But whenever Moses' hand became weak that he could not raise it, Joshua started losing. The Holy Spirit is making it clear through this passage that the Church is to provide the spiritual basis on which this government will stand and move this nation forward. God wants the Church to provide the spiritual foundation and raise the prayer altar without which this administration cannot succeed.

It is being strongly rumoured that enemies of this government are not sparing any effort in their bid to frustrate the success of the government even to the extent of using diabolical means. Unfortunately while they are faithfully pursuing their diabolical objectives, the Church is praying only once a week. We will have ourselves to blame if we do not provide the spiritual support this administration needs to succeed.

What we have done in Abuja and I will recommend for the states, local governments, etc is that we operate a 24 hour fasting and prayer for this administration and the Nation. Churches that are close to each other are assigned a day in which they pray for 24 hours. You can create as many groups as possible so that no minute is left out. We also have someone on full time that listens to news and read newspapers to fish out prayer points so that we don't just pray but also deal with issues as they arise. If there is any way you will need assistance, you can contact us.

**Rev William Okoye**, Assistant Chaplain, Aso Rock Chapel (Extracted from his short book, Clash of the Champion, Battle for the Soul of Nigeria. Integrity Royal Publications, P.O. Box 2773, Garki Abuja,

**TOPICAL ISSUE CONTD** Here is how a notable population evolutionist scientist, Dr Ansley Coale of Princeton University put it:

"Thus whatever the size of the initial human population, the rate of growth during man's first 990,000 years (about 99 percent of his history) was exceedingly small. ... only about 15 additional persons per million of population....."(Ansley J. Coale, "The History of the Human Population," *Scientific American*, vol. 231, Sept. 1974, p. 41.) There is certainly nothing in all known history or in human (biological or sociological) nature → pg 6 !

## **TOPICAL ISSUE: POPULATION MATTERS REFUTE EVOLUTION THEORY AND REVEAL DASTARD PLANS OF NEW AGERS**

The Population of humans on earth is one figure secular humanists are always quick to throw about. This is often accompanied by graphic and detailed commentaries why society must embark on some stringent population control measures, often "now or never"! Our concern in this report is not so much on the veracity and validity of these points but rather on the irony that evolutionists should be the people to carry these facts about, facts that are totally incongruous with their pet theory of human origin – the evolution theory.

For instance consider this simple statement taken from a publication by the Population Action International: "It took all of history up to the early 1800s for world population to reach 1 billion people, and until 1960 to reach 3 billion..." (Why Population Matters, International Edition, pg 11). The problem is that there is simply no reasonable way of accounting for man having been existing on the planet earth for the millions of years evolutionists talk about, and still have just only 1 billion people on the earth surface by 1800. As a matter of fact it can easily be shown mathematically (using the exponential model favoured by most people including Thomas Malthus, Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace) that, starting with just one man and one woman, it would take only about 1,100 years of exponential growth to produce the present world population of six billion people, if the population were increasing at today's annual rate of 2 %

To stick to their assumptions of human evolution over millions of years, evolutionists can only fiddle with the only unknown in the above calculation – the rate of population growth in the past. So in order to make their theory stick, evolutionists, without blinking any eye, affirm that population growth for most of man's history (the part no one can measure) was an absurd 0.000015 percent, and that the growth rate has only jumped to today's observable 2% in recent times. Hmm! → Col 1

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