

## **THE GENESIS OF CCC NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CRISIS.**

Dear brethren in Christ, it is now compulsory for us to tell the people the true story of the crisis in our dear Church. Because of the lies and wrong stories that have been carried about, we believe that people should know the real story.

Celestial Church of Christ, Harton Street Parish is the first established branch of CCC in the UK and Ireland hence the mother church of all CCC in the UK and Ireland. It is the Administrative National Headquarters for Europe and America.

The church gained many members who put their efforts and resources together to pay up the mortgage on the church building. For many years the church structure remained in a state of disrepair. Members' endless contributions that could have been used for the repair and maintenance of the building were not used for that purpose, hence led us to the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2006.

### **THE MEETING OF 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2006.**

The meeting was called to discuss the condition of the church structure – (which was going from bad to worse and to seek a way of improvement); the mismanagement of funds and also the under performing Parochial Committee.

The then Shepherd, Superior Evangelist J.A.Bakare tried to stop the meeting on that day. His excuse was that “**Celestial Church of Christ does not hold meetings on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> of December.**”

The meeting went ahead despite his refusal to partake in the meeting.

In the meeting, a lot of issues were discussed and series of allegations were levelled against the shepherd. The then parochial committee were also found irresponsible and not fit to manage the church; they were hand picked by the shepherd for his personal goal.

One of the decisions reached in the meeting was to dissolve the parochial committee and for the church members to elect a new parochial committee.

The minutes and the decisions that were made were later given to the shepherd and copies were sent to the Pastor Mobiyina Oshoffa in Nigeria.

After investigation by the Management Committee, the shepherd was removed. Everybody welcome the removal of Superior Bakare as the shepherd of Harton Street Parish.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2007 the joint meeting of the New Parochial Committee (**elected on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January 2007**) and the Management Committee agreed to bring Assistant Superior Wale Onafuye to Harton Street Parish as shepherd on a temporary basis pending the appointment of a new shepherd. Assistant Superior Evangelist Onafuye resumed his duty on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2007 and spent four weeks.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of March and 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2007, we had a joint meeting with the Management Committee pleading to retain Assistant Superior Evangelist Onafuye for a while. Unfortunately, the Management Committee ignored our plea and embarked on their own choice of shepherd without any consultation with Harton Street Parish members or the Parochial Committee.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2007 Superior Evangelist Amos Fatusin came to Harton Street Parish with a letter to resume as Shepherd for duration of one year.

Members felt disappointed in the way they were been undermined by the management committee, as a result the appointment of Superior Amos Fatusin was not accepted by members and the parochial committee.

**More over before Assistant superior Wale Onafuye left, a spiritual message was given to the church that it should go on a 21 day prayer where the Lord will reveal to us the next shepherd.** We inform the management committee about the spiritual message but they insisted on the imposition of a shepherd on Harton Street Parish than to listen to God's direction.

### **THE ISSUE OF SUPERIOR EVANGELIST AKANJI.**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2007, Superior Evangelist Akanji was posted to Harton Street Parish (as the new shepherd) who was on a visiting visa to the United Kingdom.

After the service on his first Sunday a meeting was held with Superior Akanji and the elders of the church: it was made known to him that it is illegal to employ him as shepherd or to engage in paid or unpaid job because this constitute the breaking of immigration laws of this country.

This is subject to £10,000 fine by the authority if discovered; Superior Evangelist Salu was notified about these findings and the concerns of members.

### **THE BLACK JUVENILE HARVEST.**

On Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2007 Juvenile Harvest day in CCC worldwide; Superior Evangelist Salu and his entourage (Famakinwa, Shebioba, Oloye, Bayo King, etc) came to Harton Street Parish to dissolve the democratically elected Parochial Committee and hand picked people they can manipulate (which is their usual practice) as a caretaker committee.

Superior Salu came in full force to exercise his full power and authority to disrupt the childrens' harvest; the children were confused and full of tears of sadness that day.

The police were called; when they arrived they showed a letter written to them on 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2007 with lists of eleven members of the parochial committee to be arrested (**Meroyi, Sokunbi, Oyedokun, Hungbo, Semiu, Ashana, Tinu, Tokunbo, Sina, Wole and Segun Oyegunle**) in order to be able to carry out their evil plans against the children of God.

H/S/E Omogbolahan Olasuknami Oshin signed the letter as the Chairman of caretaker committee.

This is the first time members of the church witnessed police coming inside the church with their shoes on.

Some elders of the church confronted Superior Evangelist Salu and asked him why today, a special day for the children, and he said; **"its just children harvest they don't matter."**

We sincerely believe that his statement was contrary to the teaching of Jesus Christ in Mathew 18: 1 – 6 that says children are the greatest in heaven. The police could not make any arrest because they were confused about the make-up stories given to them by HSE Oshin.

### **CHURCH OF GOD IN COURT**

Superior Akanji, Superior Shebioba and H/S/E Oshin began to push harder, on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2007 (the following Monday after juvenile harvest), the parochial committee members came to the church for a meeting to resolve issues.

Unknown to us these men (Superior Akanji, Superior Shebioba and H/S/E Oshin) has called the police again to come and chase us out of the premises that we are no longer members of Harton Street Parish. When the police came they asked us to leave for the sake of peace, before we left we informed the police that we will be coming back on Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2007 for the naming ceremony of baby Meroyi.

The police then went back to Superior Evangelist Akanji, who posed as the minister of God in the office in his full capacity defying the teaching of Jesus Christ, Mathew 18: 1-13 the children and the lost sheep.

**Superior Akanji's replied to the police was that he's not interested in us coming back to the church or for the naming ceremony. He further instructed the police to tell us that the only option to us is to go to court for an injunction.**

We then proceeded to court as directed and the court gave us hearing for an injunction. We applied for an injunction against celestial church elders who are infringing on our rights to worship and NOT celestial church of Christ.

We were able to come back to church and perform the naming ceremony of baby Meroyi.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2007, the two parties met in court, the judge observed our leaders with their flowing regalia and made these remarks; **“it is you that is suppose to be seating where I am seating with your costume judging people, and not me judging you. If you have been running the church properly you will not be brought here. I have not got the time listening to your stories.”** He then gave us twenty-eight days to go and put our house in order.

### **PEACE MOVES:**

While we were trying to arrange for peace, Superior Akanji, H/S/E Oshin and their group were going about blackmailing us calling us all sorts of names, but we went ahead looking for a way out.

- [1] We arranged with some elders of Edward Street Parish who volunteered to talk to Superior Salu on our behalf.  
On the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2007, the elders met Superior Salu in his office but to the disappointment of these elders, superior Salu was demanding £8,000 (their solicitor’s fees) from us and also that we should leave the church.
- [2] On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2007, we sent a delegation of five members to Paris to meet the Pastor, to explain our own side of the story.  
He seems not to agree with our stories, we even reminded him of the court directive that we should settle within twenty-eight days out of court.  
In his reply to us he told us that the law of United Kingdom cannot over ride Celestial Church of Christ constitution, hence we can carry on with the court case.  
He also confirmed to us that he has written our letter of expulsion from the church.
- [3] On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2007, the Pastor arrived in Harton Street Parish, and instructed M/S/E Wole Famakinwa to read our letter of expulsion and the transfer of A/S/E Ogunro and V/M/E Atere to their son’s church.  
He gave us an opportunity to come and see him at Elephant and Castle Parish, we went to see him accordingly and this did not change any of the decisions.
- [4] We held series of meetings with some elders for peace but because it doesn’t favour them, they kept mute.
- [5] We made other efforts to find a solution within celestial fold but the elders that were involved in this matter wanted to carry on with the court case.

We were treated like outcast; we were not allowed to take part in the church activities.

Thirteen make up allegations were levelled against us to support their unpopular decisions for banning us from the House of God, a church where we also make our contributions.

At this stage, where do we go? Then the memory of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the Book of Daniel Chapter 3 came to us; when the powerful king of this world rose against them.

We called the God Almighty the Supreme Being, The God that is more than enough to fight for us, The Controller of Heaven and the Earth to deliver us. In our prayer we remember the voice of God to the Israelites in the Book of Exodus Chapter 14, when they wanted to cross the red sea.

The voice of God to Jeremiah in Jeremiah Chapter 1: 7-9, God promised to protect Jeremiah and He did exactly that.

We called on that same God to come and fight for us and protect us; the God of S.B.J Oshoffa the founder (the leader that lead with honesty, true and love) to back us up and this He did perfectly and excellently well for us.

### **AFTER THE EXPULSION LETTER**

We continued to attend church services, Superior Akanji and his group continued to intimidate and harass us; calling the police to come and remove us from the church premises. **This happened seventeen times.**

**One notable occasion was on Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2007, H/S/E O.O.Oshin was conducting the service and suddenly he left the altar and in another five minutes he came inside the church with police to come and chase us out of the church.**

The service was not fully completed that day; the police couldn't do anything because there was no evidence of violence.

### **SECOND HEARING.**

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2007, we returned to court after all efforts to resolve had failed.

*Remember our claims: illegal dissolution of democratically elected parochial committee, and because of our fight against exploitation and imposition of shepherd.*

Superior Salu and his men's claim was that; we have no right to challenge them of what ever they do whether it is right or wrong, for that reason we are regarded as rebels that have to be chased out of church at all costs.

The Judge looked into the matter and decided to transfer the case to the Charity Commission (the parochial committee did not take the case to the Charity Commission as Superior Salu and his men are claiming) who has the sole authority to deal with cases like this.

To our surprise, Superior Akanji went on the pulpit deceiving the congregation that he (Akanji) has won the case and it has been thrown out of court.

They continued to tell the people the wrong story and lies about us.

### **THE PASTOR AS THE WORLD WIDE HEAD**

The Bible says in first Peter 5, Titus 3, first Timothy 3, etc **“to honour the leaders and the authority”**, hence we placed our pastor very highly just as the Pope.

Initially we did not see the matter as serious because we assumed our father, the pastor, understood what we were talking about and especially our grievances.

Before Superior Akanji asked us to go to court, we wrote series of letters and made series of phone calls to the pastor to keep him informed about everything. Not until we went to Paris to see him personally, then we realise that the pastor is not ready to listen to us.

People blamed us for not giving the pastor some money when we met him, and we told them that this did not occur to us because we were not asking for positions or ranks. All that we were after is how Harton Street Parish will progress and be peaceful.

We gave the pastor the opportunity to find out the truth but choose to hold on to the deception and lies that were been fed to him.

We lost hope with the pastor; our hope at this moment rests on the decision of the Charity Commission, relying on the truth, honesty and justice of this country.

### **OUR MEETING WITH SUPERIOR EVANGELIST BANJO**

During Superior Evangelist Banjo visit to Harton Street Parish, we held three separate meetings, and after consultation with the two parties the following were suggested:

[1] A declaration document was prepared for both parties to be signed, for the withdrawal of the court case.

[2] We agreed that each party should submit four people and four neutral people from the church to form a working committee pending the time that a new parochial committee will be elected.

[3] Superior Banjo came up with another suggestion that a joint letter should be written by both parties to the Charity Commission, that the issue has been resolved.

[4] Superior Banjo also suggested that an apology letter to be written to the pastor by the parochial committee.

**The day the agreement was to be accomplished by both parties, Superior Banjo shifted the “Goal Post”, right there in the presence of the members.**

#### **THE CHARITY COMMISSION ORDER.**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2008, the Charity Commission sent a notice informing the church that a proper registration of members and the election of officers will take place.

It took about a year before the Charity Commission could issue an order knowing that Harton Street Parish has not been run properly for many years...

The order, which took effect from 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2008, gave the Charity Trustees the authority to organise proper registration of members, and election of democratically elected officers that will be running the church

#### **WHERE IS THE CHURCH FUNDS**

In 2004, the then out-going democratically elected committee left a savings of approximately £50,000 in the church accounts. The hand picked committee led by Evangelist Bunor did not make any saving for over two years instead they ran the accounts down to £34,000.

Our committee took over in January 2007 and were able to save £10,000 within four months, before they were illegally dissolved which led to court matters.

Again, a caretaker committee hand picked took over in June 2007 to October 2008.

When the Charity Trustees gained access to the church, they discovered August Bank Statement that showed £18,000. Unfortunately, the trustees cannot confirm whether the money is still in the account because; electricity, gas, insurance and other bills has not been paid for some months.

**This now amounting to about £7,000 in debt.**

***During this period the following people were in charge as caretaker committee and their shepherds:***

1. Superior Akanji – Shepherd
2. Elder Okerayi – Chairman (but later left the church)
3. H/M/E Adenitire – Chairman
4. Evangelist Bunor – Chairman
5. H/A/E Edward Imoukhuede – Secretary
6. H/S/E.Elemide – Financial Secretary (but opted out to protect his name)

7. M/C Adegbokun – Treasurer
8. M/C Grace Emachomuere – Assistant Treasurer
9. H/E Omadoye – Financial Secretary
10. Elder Brother Raphael Alayande – Assistant Secretary
11. Assistant Superior Evangelist Ademilua – Assistant Shepherd (refused salary and later removed for advocating for peace)
12. Superior Evangelist Benjamin I. Fadoju – Shepherd
13. H.S/E. Omogbolahan O.Oshin – Counsellor
14. Assistant Superior Evangelist Ogunro – Adviser
15. V/M/E Bola Akinbiyi – Adviser
16. V/M/E Atere – Adviser
17. M/C Porter – Adviser

The above people would be able to help the Charity Trustees about the church funds.

As at the time of writing this write –up, the Trustees are unable to give full and correct position of the church accounts.

The Bank Statement from the Nat West as at **20/08/08** shows a balance of **£18, 500.37**, and the recent statement dated **20/1108** shows that the church accounts is over drawn by **£163**.

## **OUR GOALS**

We believe in Celestial Church of Christ doctrine; we believe that the church was descended through our Father Pastor and Founder S.B.J.Oshoffa, who through the power of Jesus Christ saved many souls.

He would have liked the church to be more progressive than it is today.

Other churches founded after Celestial Church of Christ has gone ahead to establish many institutions like; universities, nurseries, colleges of theology, etc.

### **Our goals for Harton Street Parish:**

[1] To stop exploitation.

[2] To stop the authoritarian system of management that has been holding back the progress of the church.

[3] Administrative committee must be allowed to operate according to the constitutional power given to them.

[4] Accountability and transparency.

[5] To stop imposition of shepherds that encourages bribery and corruption

[6] Harton Street Parish has always been seen as a self-centred organisation and we want a change; the church to be seen as welfare centred charitable organisation to cater for its members and the community at large.

[7] Like other Christian we remain committed to our Lord Jesus Christ and what He stands for, “love your neighbours as thy self.”

## **THE CHURCH OF GOD CLOSED DOWN.**

The appointed charity trustees were in the church, but were prevented to carry out charity commission order. Superior Evangelist B.I.Fadoju told them that the premises do not belong to charity commission but to Benedicta Adenijolu.

They made malicious allegations against the charity commission trustees that led to the arrest of one of them for suspicion to cause criminal damages to Harton Street Parish by Mr Emmanuel Oshoffa according to the police.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2008, the church was locked up claiming it was an order from the pastor Emmanuel Oshoffa (in Nigeria) defying the order of the charity commission in United Kingdom.

**END OF DECEPTION AND LIES**

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2008, the charity trustees came to begin their duties but were denied access into the church.

Oshin then gave an option that he would rather release the key to the police than to give it to the charity commission trustees; the police took the key and wanted to clarify some issues with the charity commission.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2008, the key to the premises was released to the charity commission trustees and the church was opened for the children of God to worship.

On Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2008, a full service began in the church and peace was restored back in the church.

Since then normal services has been going on in the church

*If we are to write everything that happened during this period we will be writing a book.*

***MAY GOD BLESS CELESTIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, HARTON STREET PARISH AND PEACE LOVING PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SEE HARTON STREET PARISH EXCEL TO A PROSPEROUS LEVEL.***

***THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND PRAYER.***