## PRESS RELEASE-19<sup>TH</sup> MAY.2005 CELESTIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST EMBRACES PEACE

various important personalities in the church, men and women alike, seek the path of peace, love and unity.

While a group of dedicated women were going round, prayerfully, to plead with the leadership of the various factions to embrace unity, another group of 7 highly prominent senior members of the Church in Nigeria have been directed by the Holy Spirit of God to meet at the National Headquarters of the Church at Makoko, Yaba, Lagos State to deliberate on the way forward towards unity.

The 7 members are:

- 1. Most Superior Evangelist .T. Oshin
- 2. S.O. Banjo
- 3. S.O. Akande
- 4. M.O. Coker
- 5. Lagun Adesanya
- 6. Emmanuel Leshi
- 7. Pepe E. Asebiomo.

After three cordial and progressive meetings, the group decided unanimously that the Celestial Church of Christ is one indivisible body of Christ as descended by God through Rev. S.B.J. Oshoffa of blessed memory, the first Pastor, Prophet and Founder of the Church, and that true unity must be founded on mutual love respect and strict observance of the Rules, Tenets and Regulations of the church and the fear of God and compliance with His commandments.

Other aspects of the dividing factors that led to the protracted crisis were also identified and discussed, leading to the following proposals for immediate actualization by the members of the church to enhance the spirit of love, unity and peace.

1. All members of the church are enjoined to tread the path of love that engenders understanding leading to peace and unity in the fold.

detestion Church of Christ is one, so all church functionaries and members should interact freely and thus be free to worship in any Parish in the world without molestation or embarrassment, provided that they wear no offending regalia or make debatable or unjustifiable claim to status.

- 3. To enhance unity and frustrate the machinations of the devil, all functionaries are admonished to preach the doctrine of peace, harmony and the fear of God and must avoid any action or utterances that destroy or malign, to cause a breach of the peace.
- 4. Functionaries are admonished to encourage, and thus welcome arrangements leading to exchange of pulpit on services day, but whenever such happens, such functionaries should avoid inflammatory comments but preach the scriptures as read from the Bible in accordance with the texts for the day.
- 5. A (Joint) committee to be set up to produce a single edition of the church annual gospel diary for use in the church world wide for the period starting from January 2006.
- 6. All factions to look into various existing litigation/court cases with a view to withdrawing them in pursuance of the ideal of love, harmony and unity.
- 7. The group acknowledged and gives glory to God who has never left His church despite the crisis, and appreciate the efforts of those who had continuously spent time, energy and other resources to bring about peace in the church, and pray that from now, the church's usual chants of halleluyah will rent the air in joy and peace,

Amen.

1. M/S/S/E Taiwo Oshin..

2. Samson Olatunde Banjo.

3. Samuel Olatunji Akande...

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6. Emmanuel Leshi Lumantusku

7. Pepe Emmanuel Asebiomo.