

The Aladura Movement in Ijesaland 1930-1980.

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Abstract:

The purpose of the study was to describe analyse the existence in Ijesaland of the Aladura Movement which, within fifty years of its emergence in a culture-area has become very important the host community as an indigenous Christian Movement.

The study applied historico-phenomenological and theological approaches in interpreting the data gathered mainly through the participant-observation approach. The study traced the historical and ethnographical background of the Ijesa and related the historical, social and political structures at work in Ijesaland to the religious weltanschauung.

This was followed by the descriptive analysis of the emergence of the Aladura Movement in Ijesaland as well as of its major beliefs and practices. The conversion processes used by the Aladura in Ijesaland and its catchments areas was then examined. The impact of the Movement in Ijesa society- was investigated as a major contribution to the existing body of knowledge by using the indices of religion, anthropology, social culture, econology, politics and economics. In the conclusion there was a discussion of the significance of the Movement as a powerful agent of social and religious changes in Ijesaland, and as a formula for the indigenization of the Christian Church in Nigeria.

Keywords: Religion/ christianity/ Aladura Movement/ culture/ theology/ ethnic/ econology/ church

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