Cherubim And Seraphim: The History Of An African Independent Church

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African Independent Churches, also known as African Indigenous Churches, African Initiated Churches, African Instituted Churches, or just AICs, represent well over 10,000 independent Christian denominations in Africa. African Independent Churches are found in every region and country in Africa, but they are more adequately documented in west Africa and southern Africa. Even though the denominational, ritual, and linguistic diversity of these churches makes it difficult to analyze and classify, the common thread uniting all of the Christian churches is that they were all established by Africans. From 1879 to 1933, Saint Moses Orimolade Tunolase, known in his boyhood days as Orimolade Okejebu, was born into the royal family of Omoba Ode Sodi of Okorun Quarters, Ikare, Western Nigeria.

The year of his birth has traditionally been given as 1879. At the time of his birth, there was no birth registry in Ikare. The art of writing and therefore the keeping of records, had not yet become popular in that locality. We therefore have no authentic record of his birth date. His life began with a strange experience his mother had. Madam Odijoroto, also of the same royal house, was in the bush where she was delivering him. This led to his lifelong nickname, ‘Okejebu’ meaning ‘strange experience’.

This study investigates and documents the changes that have taken place in the history of RCCG from inception to the present. By March 1888 the first case of a break away from a mission church took place.
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