

Ifa Foundation International

“The Step by Steps”

We recommend establishing a base to build your life from. Here is the first step that defines what you chose during the time of your conception...with this information we can build!

GUARDIAN / LIFE PATH READING

This can be done over the phone or by email. Oluwo Philip Neimark and Iyanifa Vassa Neimark can divine for you and determine which Orisa crowns your head. At the moment of conception, we make our choices regarding our destiny. It is critically important for an individual to understand the specific Orisa energy they will manifest throughout their lives. Learning the strengths as well as the possible pitfalls that accompany the specificity of your energy can be critical. In Africa, a child, on its third day of life, is read by a Babalawo in order to determine many things, including what Orisa crowns its' head. The parent's knowledge of this helps them to understand and channel the energy of the child in directions that will be most positive and least frustrating. As adults, we often find that, upon discovering our primary Orisa energy, we have been acting in ways not in accordance with our strengths. Much of our failure to succeed and fulfill ourselves can be traced to these misunderstandings. Learning what are real strengths are and how to work with them is the second step in spiritual growth. This should only be done by a trained priest of Ifa. Too many people have been misread and end up very confused.

STEPS TO THE LEVELS OF IFA

The process of change begins once you make your commitment to one of these ceremonies. It is extremely important that the person that is making your tools live a life of good character and be properly trained. The ASE of the director of these ceremonies is an important factor as well!

ESU - A TOOL to aid in connecting to the energy of OPPORTUNITY

Every individual, regardless of their guardian Orisa, can benefit significantly by receiving their own Esu. This consecration of energy, specific to the individual, can significantly open the possibilities for success and love in an individual's life. It can also significantly minimize many of life's misfortunes. *There are several types of Esu. You should start with either a general Esu or one that is in combination with your Orisa energy – such as Esu/Osun or Esu/Oya ! There are also small traveling ones for your car or your briefcase, purse or pocket. There is an Esu/Sigiti specifically made for protection. As well as a two- sided Esu to watch your front and your back (good for jealousy). There is an Esu/Ogun made for travel. Great for the cup holder in your car! It is good to have at least a small Esu for your car. After building each Esu, the proper offering is made, making the triangulation for you to then use as your personal tool of connecting. You can then use the specialty energies that Esu is in charge of – opening the paths and roads to opportunity and positive things for your life path as well as closing the paths and roads and protecting you from any harm.* You can request an Esu to be made for you and expect to have it within 2 weeks.

ICOFA – ONE HAND OF ORUNMILA

This is a tool that connects you directly with Orunmila's energy – wisdom and knowledge. It is also the tool that an initiated priest of Ifa would use to divine with.

You are not present when this ceremony is done. The 18 (full set for men and women) Ikin are consecrated in a major initiation ceremony. On the third day, we will divine with them to determine your LIFE PATH. This is a very important part to knowing who you are and about your DESTINY. Your reading is typed up and sent with the set of Ikin, an Esu rock that lives with Orunmila and an Ide are also included with this package.

We also enclose the instruction sheet to teach you how to work with this energy and the Ikin so you will be more able to be self-empowered. Upon your review we ask you to call us with any questions. Each and every month (at the beginning of the month) we post an Icofa reading on the website as a courtesy to all those who have received this ceremony. This will give you information about the energy of the month as well as give you an ebbo to follow. You will gain enormous power when you do this regularly!

These ceremonies are done every month for all those that request worldwide.

Upon ordering your Icofa, we can better tell you of the delivery time. No more than 4 weeks usually.

ORI - YOUR DESTINY

This is a life changing ceremony.

One you must be present for.

You need to be here with us for a full day!

While in Africa a physical Ori is seldom given, we at the Ifa Foundation have discovered that the receiving of a physical Ori can have the most profound implications. For many years we have attempted to ritually balance many individuals whose destiny was so scarred that the hopes of their lives ever truly realizing their destiny seemed virtually impossible. These include primarily, but not exclusively, instances of sexual abuse, physical abuse and emotional abuse, during childhood. At this critical juncture in people's lives, where the need for trust, nurturing and safety are essential, events such as those described can do irreparable and permanent damage to their Ori.

What we have found is that through the major ceremony of receiving a physical Ori, it is almost as if the scars and damage to their potential, and their destiny, are wiped away! What is left is the original, unharmed and unblemished path that was chosen at conception.

Others who have suffered major insults to their growth and well-being are finding receipt of a physical Ori the most powerful of initiations. We have dealt with situations ranging from an individual being crowned with the wrong Orisa, falsely imprisoned, mentally disturbed and physically harmed, and the results have been amazing!

It would seem evident that the reason physical Ori is seldom given in Africa, is that the African culture seldom abuses in ways that in the West have become commonplace. It is a sad commentary on Western culture. Yet, we should be grateful that the wisdom and power of Africa is available to rectify the horrors we inflict on our young.

You would arrive with a special rock that will be fed at the time of the ceremony.

There is a unique balance of the male and female energy during the offerings.

Opening ceremonies are done with Esu and the ancestors prior to your Ori ceremony.

CROWNING YOUR ORISA

This initiation process allows the potent energy of your Orisa to enter your head in a profound and meaningful fashion. It is a very important component to being whole and balanced. There is a real self-empowerment action that takes place along with an alignment of who you truly are. *Allowing you to access the divination tool of reading the cowries shells for yourself as well as others.*

This is a 5 day time period at our retreat where you would live in the treehouse overlooking Lake Ola Olu. Also having access to the Orisa gardens while there. Beginning with a deep shedding ceremony which empties out the old negative experiences you have carried, allowing room for all the new and fresh positive energy to enter. Ceremonies to Esu and the ancestors are also done to line all the energies up properly. You would arrive with the proper stones and container for your Orisa, we do the rest. A study notebook, filled with teaching material, is given to you prior to beginning, allowing you to begin with some important journaling.

The Orisa initiation plants the seed, opens the door, allowing you access to the deepest of your energy connections. It is a place to begin anew.

On the third day, the most important reading of your life is divined for you. It is your life path. This is valuable information about what the universe is bringing to you. We discuss how to work with your path, bringing the best quality to your life. We teach you throughout the time you are with us. You will learn how to better connect to the energies and you will learn how to do many types of Ebbos. A special book and tape will be given to you to begin a life long study of cowrie divination.

There will be a lot of hands on study time with Oluwo Philip and Iyanifa Vassa, allowing access to their many years of growing in this path. After you leave the retreat you will have special access to the Ifa College Initiates section, enabling you to gain more wisdom and knowledge as well as a connection to the other initiates. You can openly ask questions and bounce out different situations.

IFA PRIEST INITIATIONS - BABALAWO AND IYANIFA

The Ifa Foundation offers full initiations and training for those individuals with good character. We are careful who has these potent tools. Upon your commitment to these ceremonies, a pre-initiation study packet is sent out with information to learn prior to your arrival. You begin your studies at the time of commitment. We work between our time frames available to gather all the components to your initiation. We recommend a small group of 2 to 5 people at one time which we would coordinate. This enables you to share and learn from each other while we are teaching. The time that you would be with us at the retreat is generally Friday night until the following Tuesday night. We are flexible with the days with notice.

The ceremonies begin with the offerings to Esu and the ancestors and then right into the big shedding. If you have not received your Orisa beforehand, we would perform these ceremonies and then go right into Ifa.

The Ita (life path) reading is performed immediately afterwards. This is the information that you will work with for the rest of your life. It is the guideline of your life.

The time that you are with us is filled with teaching from both Oluwo Philip Neimark and Iyanifa Vassa. Each is gifted in certain aspects and will openly share the years of hard-earned wisdom with you. You will learn how to divine with the Opele as well as with the Ikin. You will learn the energies of the Odu's and how to interpret them properly.

You will leave with how to divine a regular reading as well as a guardian Orisa one.

We will teach you how to build Esu's while constructing one. There will also be instructions on how to do an offering to the Ifa tools. A great deal of time will be spent on the various ebbo's that are available to use for certain situations.

It is a very full schedule of teaching and a complete notebook will be yours filled with written material to follow on your own.

A special certificate is given to you at the time of graduating the initiation and teaching time with us stating that you are trained by the Ifa Foundation.

And as soon as you return home, we request that you email us your readings with the interpretations you have for review and fine tuning by Oluwo Philip. The teaching is ongoing. In time as we watch how you grow, we may recommend you to people who contact us and are looking for people in their area.

KEEP IN MIND THAT
THE IFA FOUNDATION IS A
TEACHING CENTER.

WE WANT YOU SELF-EMPOWERED!

BOTH INITIATIONS ARE ONLY THE BEGINNING OF THE
PROCESS. THE IFA FOUNDATION OFFERS TOTAL SUPPORT TO
EACH INITIATE.

WE OFFER FULL TRAINING FOR YEARS TO FOLLOW...AS
WELL AS SUPPORT, GUIDANCE AND COACHING.

THE IFA COLLEGE FOR CONTINUED LEARNING AND
GROWING AND WE OFFER FREE ACCESS TO ALL
WORKSHOPS.

WE INVITE YOU BACK TO WORK CEREMONIES AND
CONTINUE YOUR CONNECTING AS WELL LEARNING HOW TO
DO MORE.

WE HAVE STRUCTURED A CO-PARTNER PLAN WHICH
ENABLES YOU THE ABILITY TO DO ALL ASPECTS OF THE IFA

WORK. USE OF THE RETREAT IS AVAILABLE AND THE VARIOUS CEREMONIES CAN BE PERFORMED FOR YOU IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE SET-UP TO DO THEM AT YOUR OWN LOCATION.

A SPECIAL PACKET IS AVAILABLE WITH WHOLESALE PRICING FOR YOU IF YOU DECIDE TO GO INTO PRACTICE. WE HAVE WORKED HARD TO OFFER ONGOING SUPPORT AS WELL AS CONTINUED EDUCATION FOR OUR INITIATES.

TWO OF THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF INITIATION

FOR MEN -

IGBADO – ODU – CALABASH OF EXISTENCE

This ceremony brings a Babalawo to the stature of Oluwo. Enabling this person to initiate others as Orisa, Babalawo and Iyanifa as well as working at the deepest level available to connect with.

Inside the special container lives Odu. Not to be seen by women. This is Orunmila's wife and there is a whole story about why this is to be.

This is a very potent tool and should be carefully used. It is a step a Babalawo can take after working with the energies for some time.

FOR WOMEN –

NANA BUUKEN – FROM THE IYAAMI COMPLEX

This is a ceremony for women... that is part of the balancing force for the men with the Igbado. A very special ceremony takes place that brings a “*filling in*” to areas where needed. It immediately brings more pieces of the puzzle together to a “leveling” unlike before. The things that most needed fixing are dealt with and accomplished with great success. Many tools come with this ceremony. You would bring a special rock while we create the Nana hut, made with a steel frame and covered in Bamboo stalks in the shape of a small teepee. Inside sits the Nana consecrated rock with a clay dome over it. A special serpent like staff and bamboo knife are also parts to the ceremony and would become tools to work with as well as parts to your shrine.

OTHER IMPORTANT STEPS AND TOOLS –

THE KNIFE:

Both men and women initiates are able to access this energy. It is a special ceremony that involves Ogun and you're receiving the actual knife initiation - accessing the ability to do 4legged blood sacrifice. Without this ceremony, one should not be doing this level of work. This is necessary to have the proper connections made with the Orisa and the animal energies. Things should be in order before performing sacrifices of any kind! This is done in an afternoon as well and you would of course have to be present to do the ceremony. One would be completely guided every step of the way.

THE SHEDDING:

You would prepare before your arrival with a review of what you would want to shed. A dramatically unique ceremony is performed using a special blessed Omiero made of herbs for cleansing and the special fed black soap. You are guided into a space that allow the release of very old, deep and negative energies while specially trained priest of Ifa cut away your old clothing. You go through an emptying of your space inside which will then allow us to immediately put in fresh, new positive energy in another special ceremony right afterwards. You should allow an afternoon for all that needs to be done.

THE PREGNANCY CEREMONY:

First a reading would be completed to determine if your circumstances could be successfully dealt with using this type of ceremony. Once it has been determined to be an effective tool, we would then prepare the herbs and animals and priests that need to be involved. It is highly spiritual and involves the most magical of women's energies.

One of my favorite types of work to do for sure! We have seen pregnancies take place within 8 weeks afterwards!

THE ABUSE CEREMONY:

Specially designed for sexual abuse, sacred herbs are put together to remove this deep negativity as well as special prayers. Unfortunately we have had a lot of this type of work and fortunately we have seen phenomenal results!

This ceremony takes a part of a whole day and must be planned in advance.

THE WEDDING CEREMONY:

Oluwo Philip is registered with the state to perform these. We can customize to your needs but have a framework to how the Ifa wedding works. There are many components to this traditional wedding. Special songs are sung as the bride walks in, honoring the ancestors is a large part, the involvement of various things such as honey, liquor, bitter kola nuts, pepe, cool water, and more will be used involving the Bride and Groom and all those who attend as well. It is a lovely experience. *Much more to tell on this one!*

PROSPERITY AND PROTECTION TOOLS

AJE : *STRICTLY FOR WEALTH*, The only one of its kind !

A special shell taken from the sea is fed the strength of 4-legged animals with the strong ase and prayers of Oluwo Philip and Iyanifa Vassa plus the assistance of other higher initiates. There is no need to be present although you are welcome to be. We ship the consecrated shell to you with an instruction sheet to follow. You then place it in a water proof vessel and welcome the energy into your home or business. You can work with this tool regularly, giving offerings the herbs of Aje and lots of sea salt while refreshing the water.

OSAIN:

A COMBINATION TOOL FOR ATTRACTING NEW BUSINESS, CONTROLLING EMPLOYEES AND TRAFFIC IN YOUR SPACE AND PROTECTION !

Special ingredients are selected for this tool and placed in an opened Gourd. This tool is also fed the strength of 4-legged animals as well as 2-legged animals. You do not need to be present for this either but you are welcome to attend the ceremonial part.

The completed gourd is then closed up with woven cording and 5 feathers from the sacred bird, the vulture. Upon receipt of this tool, you would hang this from the ceiling over your entryway. Welcome the energy and then enjoy the results from the connecting.

THE SIGIDI:

This tool offers protective qualities against Death, Disease, and Court Cases. The sacred Odu refer to death coming to the door and confronting the Sigiti – “Step aside, death called. Sigiti did not answer. Death was so amazed that he went to the back door, where the same thing happened. Death decided that any figure fearsome enough to behave like this should be avoided, and went away !”

Adaptations of this highly protective Yoruba figure exist in most African cultures. In Orisa worship, two wooden figures, covered with serin (nails), razor blades, mirrors, etc. are fed major four-legged animals. One figure is placed by the front door and one by the rear entrance to the home or business.

At the Ifa Foundation you will have access to the years of experience of Oluwo Philip J. Neimark and Iyanifa Vassa Neimark who openly share the wisdom and knowledge they have gained through the process of connecting with the path of Ifa.

Oluwo Philip J. Neimark began his journey with Ifa 40 years ago...and Iyanifa Vassa is celebrating her 28th year.

You can read more about their background and their destiny throughout the various areas on the Ifa Foundation website.

The Ifa Foundation operates from a home office in Ormond Beach,

Florida while the Retreat is in a separate location in Crescent City, Florida, which is approximately in the center of the state, next to the Ocala National Forest.

It is there that a unique combination of Nature's energy and privacy allow the Rituals of Ifa to be performed in the full immersion of nature...free from the stresses of the busy world most live inside of. Many who have come from Africa say it reminds them of their homeland. It is true that before the tectonic shifts... Africa and Florida were joined as one!

Feel free to contact Iyanifa Vassa with any questions.

1-386-615-0987 1-800-906-4322 cell: 386-214-6489
P.O. Box 14 Flagler Beach, Florida 32136

Blessings to you and your family.
Odagbo

Iyanifa Vassa
Ifa Coach for the Ifa Foundation of North America