

# THE PART TO PLAY

## An autobiography of S.T. Adelegan; Deputy-Speaker, Western Nigeria House of Assembly

Author Shadrach Adelegan brings a service-driven life to focus

**ABUJA, Nigeria** – Shadrach Adelegan’s nonfiction book: ‘The Part to Play’ tells the story of a life of a humanist characterized by patriotism, dedication, and fortitude.

**EXCERPT FROM FOREWORD:** “Adelegan’s handling of the proceedings of the defunct post-emergency Western Region House of Assembly as Speaker Protempore, was commended by the political party in power and the opposition who saw Adelegan as an impartial arbiter. This publication will surely be useful to students of History and politics. -- **Archdeacon Emmanuel Oladipo Alayande OFR, LLD, JP.**

**An excerpt from the book: 1962 LEGISLATIVE DISTURBANCES ON THE FLOOR OF THE WESTERN REGION HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:** Chairs began to fly in different directions. One located Chief Awolowo but was quickly intercepted by Chief Alfred Rewane. There was free-for-all fight, a situation which attracted tear gas from the security men. As soon as the tear gas was thrown, the whole place became deserted as the honourable men fled. The Speaker – Adeleke Adedoyin, myself, Chief Obafemi Awolowo and Chief Jonathan Odebiyi managed to find our ways to the Speaker’s Office. There, Chief Awolowo telephoned the Prime Minister, Alhaji Tafawa Balewa to inform him of the rascality displayed by the people on the floor of the House. Mutually, we should agree to keep decency in the House.”

**COMMENDATIONS: Hansard – Official Bulletin of the Western Region House of Assembly - 6th April, 1965**

**The Hon. Chief S.L. Akintola (Premier):** “Perhaps I may express the sentiments of both Sides of the House. We pay you, Sir, the commendation that is due to you for the efficient manner in which you have been able to carry on and discharge the duties of the Speaker of this honourable House. (Cheers). It is unfortunate that ill-health prevented the Hon. Speaker of this House from attending this important Budget Meeting but, in spite of the short notice, you came to our rescue as an experienced Deputy Speaker who has been able to assimilate and acquire a great deal of practical knowledge. For this, we are very much indebted to you for the successful completion of this Budget Meeting and I think that your performance on this occasion augurs well for the future because you have discharged your duties remarkably well, so efficiently and so charmingly, that the Members of the Opposition will always like to see you on the Chair.

**The Hon. Alhaji D.S Adegbenro: (Leader of Opposition):** **Mr. Deputy Speaker,** Sir, I like to associate myself with the views and sentiments expressed by the hon. Premier. When the appointment of Mr. Speaker was proposed, I was consulted, and I argued that you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, ought to have been promoted to the post of the substantive Speaker. I was informed that there were some difficulties in the rank and file of the NNDP and I had to agree that you still hold your post as Deputy Speaker and in spite of the fact that you happen to be the Deputy Speaker, you have discharged your duties impartially and you deserve our

commendation as well. My Deputy Speaker, Sir, we congratulate you for being an efficient and impartial Speaker”.

**RELATIONSHIPS --- Chief Dennis Osadebey:** “He was such a humourous and thorough gentleman. I remember in one of our Parliamentary meetings, he moved to cut the vote of the then Minister of Works by one shilling. “I went to his house one day, he entertained me with half bottle of Heineken beer” he joked. Everybody burst to laughter. He was never known to be boisterous in the House. He spoke gently and his manner was gentle and truly honourable.” -- **Author**

**Chief Remi Fani-Kayode:** He was another NCNC member of the Western House, representing Ife-Ila South Constituency. He was a very tough politician, who was very sound and intelligent. I remember he usually called me a ‘Socialist’ because of the way I dressed, spoke, and my simplicity. But I never responded because as Deputy-Speaker, I needed to exhibit some maturity and calmness. Besides, my background as an Andrian’ told much about my disposition and simplicity”. – **Author**

**Chief Abraham Adesanya:** Represented Ijebu North 1 Constituency. A strong member of Action Group and unflinching supporter of Awolowo did not hold any post throughout, but his contribution in the House was great. He was a bold speaker, always frank and serious looking. By the time the Action Group became the opposition party, he always stood to confront Chief S. L. Akintola, on the floor of the House. On these occasions, he appeared very serious, ever taking sides with Awolowo, whom he stood firmly behind all the time. - **Author**

**Adegoke Adelabu:** Adegoke Adelabu was like an idol, the strongman of Ibadan politics. Who dared look up to his face! He did not hide his indignation and contempt for those who were not Ibadan indigenes. On one occasion, I had cause to mention the name of Awolowo, as a great Yoruba leader. He quickly stopped me by calling me ‘Ohanran’ –a bushman He asked if I was a Yoruba and I told him I was and that he ought to know. He told me; those of us who were not Ibadan or Oyo are not Yoruba. -- **Author**

**AT THE ST ANDREWS TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGE, OYO:** My bravery and frankness endeared me to our Principal, George Button. On one occasion in the night, we were supposed to be sleeping. All lights must be off. But we were flagrant. We were busy writing letters and suddenly, we heard the footsteps of the Principal. We quickly put off the lights but I did not put off mine. He ordered us all out but nobody was ready to volunteer the truth. I opened up and told him ‘I was not sleeping because I had some letters to write”. And this was exactly what I was doing when we heard your footstep sir. The Principal punished us all. But he developed love and adoration for me simply because he knew I would always say the truth.”

**EARLY YEARS IN IPETU-IJESHA:** My mother was “a woman of endless industry.” We woke early at the first cockcrow – between 3.30 and 4.00 a.m, took with us prepared food wrapped in leaves – corn cake or cooked beans of all kinds and pap. If we were bound for Igbara Odo 15 miles away we reached our destination before taking our meal. If our destination was Ogotun – 9 miles away, we might purchase all we needed before taking our breakfast. We usually bought clay pots from Igbara-Odo and mats from Ogotun – all for resale on market days in Ipetu-Ijesa. Also, after school, I sometimes fetched firewood, which could fetch me from four to six pence.

**Copyright: Femi Adelegan**

**CAVEAT EMPTOR!** *Digitization and reproduction of these book publications by anybody or organization including higher institutions, without the express permission of the AUTHOR/PUBLISHERS is **FORBIDDEN**.*

Please contact publishers at [info@terrificheadlines.com](mailto:info@terrificheadlines.com), [info@terrificinvestment.com](mailto:info@terrificinvestment.com), and [terrificinvestment@gmail.com](mailto:terrificinvestment@gmail.com)  
Mobile +234-8033977394.

**PRESS RELEASES: --- CONTACT: FEMI ADELEGAN  
PUBLISHERS: TERRIFIC INVESTMENT & CONSULTING  
ABUJA, FEDERAL CAPITAL CITY, NIGERIA; NOVEMBER, 2020**

BOOKS WITHOUT BORDERS