

A GLOSSARY OF
IGBO WORDS, NAMES AND PHRASES

Taken from the text:

Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Appendix A: Catholic Terms

Appendix B: Pidgin English

Chimsimdi(m/f): "My God said I should be" (p. 285)

Chinedu(m): Short for Chinedum/Chinedum nuwa; "God guides" "God guides me in this life" (p. 236)

Chineke: God the creator; literally: "God and Creation" or "Essence and Creation" (Chineke = God/essence and creation) (p. 167-168)

Chinwe(f) Chinwe = "God's own/God owns" Jideze = "hold onto Kingship or Royalty" (p. 46)

Chinyelu(f): "God gave" (p. 152)

Chukwu: The High God/Supreme God [i(god)-Ukwu (big)] Chukwu is k7.57 0 TdiEu8[(()3 (f)-4 ())]TJ /TT2 1 Tf

O di egwu: z ǂ š Z • • Œ Ç U ~% XCEð õ•ǂ]í Ĩí •

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O gini: "What is it?" (p. 149, 122, 247)

O ginidi: "What is it really?" (p. 170)

O joka: "It is very bad" (p. 95)

O maka: "It is so beautiful" (p. 128)

^ Ku u u U Z] v I U u ŷ u ǂ The good doer Chineke (God), the good doer. ǂ (p. 39)

O nkem: "it's mine" (p. 209)

Obi (m): Igbo name for the heart/soul as well as the dwelling of the head of the household in an Igbo family's compound in Nigeria (p. 285)

Obinna(m): "the heart of the father" (p. 285)

Obiora(m): "Heart of the people or community" (p. 78)

Obugodi "even if it is" (p. 138)

Oburia?: "is it not so?" (p. 222)

Ochiri: An Ochiri approximates an Egret member of the Heron family of birds

Ofe nsala: White pepper soup, Ofemeans soup while asalameans colorless and pepper-ish (p. 15, 152)

Oga: Pidgin English for sir, master, or boss. Oga: Person in charge. Also Oga pata-pata (p. 199)

Ogbete market A famous daily market in the city Enugu (p. 295)

Ogbuefi Olioke(m) Ogbuefi (first name) = "slaughterer of bull", Olioke (last name) = "rat eater" [what a paradox!] (p. 66)

Ogbunambala: "He that kills in public." No secrecy or privacy. He loves to publicly disgrace or shame another (p. 60)

Ogige market sheltered market as opposed to open air market

Ogwi Road Well-known road in Enugu City

Ogwu: Medicine, talisman, charm, voodoo, fetish (p. 21-21)

Okada: Motorcycle taxi (p. 128)

Okon: Níger Delta Efik-Ibibio names. Okon = male child born at night a very common name

Okpa: Dried flour of a (gram) pea is used for a popular pudding Okpa eaten and enjoyed by many (p. 127)

Okporoko: Imported dried Norwegian stock fish

Okwia?: "Isn't it?"

Oladipupo:Youruba name meaning, "my wealth is multiplied or my riches have abundantly increased"

Omelora:"The one who does for the community." Title name of Kambili's Papa

Onugbu soupA favorite Igbo soup made with Onugbu a bitter green leaf vegetable

Onye zi?:Who could it be? "who is it?" "Who might it be?" (p. 230)

Onyeka:short for Onyekachi who is greater than Chi (God) Onyekas a female Igbo musician popular in the Nigerian music scene (p. 151)

Orah leavesLocal leafy vegetable used in making the delicious Orah soup (p. 169)

Osadebe.Chief Stephen Osita Osadebe the preeminent traditional Igbo musician

Oye AbaganaOye/Oriemarket of Abagana town Oyeis the second day of the Igbo four-day market week. (p. 60)

Oyinbo land:White-man's land, English/American land, Caucasians, etc. (p. 244)

Ozu: Corpse, dead body (p. 184)

Ozugo:"It's enough" (p. 190)

P

Palm oil:Red oil expressed from palm fruit, used in cooking and frying

Palm wine:Palm Wine (pamie) is an alcoholic beverage created from the sap of various species of palm trees.

Papa-NnukwuGrandpa, Grandfather Nnukwu means "big, grand"

Peak Milk:Peak Milk is the premium canned creamy milk produced in Holland

Peugeot 404, 504The national car of Nigeria. The Peugeot 504

Tufia!: "God forbid!" a curse or oath emphasizing indignation and to "forbid" [sometimes kwá]

U,Y

Ube: Fig-shaped fruit in the avocado family. A favorite accompaniment with roasted corn (p. 137)

Uchu gba gi A curse "may you be accursed!" (p. 189)

Udala fruit: A sweet and sometimes sour fruit. With a mythic reputation among Igbos, it is known by some as the 'bush mango' (p. 209)

Ugba porridge *Pentaclethra macrophylla* Ugba a fermented product from African oil bean seed

Ugochukwu(m/f): God's Eagle (p. 219)

Ugu Leaf:

APPENDIX A: CATHOLIC TERMS

A

Act of Contrition:A private devotional prayer as part of a daily examination of conscious

Advent Sunday:The 4th Sunday before Christmas day, it marks the first day of Advent season when preparations are made for the coming of Jesus Christ.

Articles of Vatican I, II/Vatican I: refers to the ecumenical council of the Roman Catholic Church who met in 1870 to adopt the first dogmatic constitution on the catholic faith Vatican II: The second ecumenical council of the Church convened in 1962 and ended in 1965.

Ash Wednesday:The first day of Lent, 46 days (not counting Sunday's) before Easter. Lent is a period of fasting and prayer in preparation for Easter.

Ave Maria:A.k.a. Hail Mary: a traditional Roman Catholic prayer or song upholding the sacredness of Mary mother of Jesus.

B

Baptism:A ritual of using water to admit someone as a full member of the Catholic Church

Benediction:A short invocation for divine help, blessing or guidance, usually at the end of worship service

Blessed Sacrament:Refers to the Host and wine after they have been consecrated in the sacrament of the Eucharist, or Holy Communion

C

Catechism/Catechist:Catechist: Someone who engages in instruction of Catholic doctrine, typically a lay minister. Catechism of the Catholic Church is a manual of doctrine in the form of Q&A.

Catholic chaplaincy:A chaplain is typ3 (s))1 (b)32 Td o972 TD [(f)-6 ()-4 (lay)],ool (g)8 ()5 (ivin)-2]TJ /nd pfo

Palm Sunday Palm Sunday is a Christian moveable feast, or holy day which always falls on the Sunday before Easter.

Pentecost Sunday Pentecost is the festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost means "fiftieth day". It is celebrated on the Sunday 50 days after Easter.

Peter's pence An ancient payment made more or less voluntarily to Rome, begun under the Saxons in England and also seen in other countries.

Psalm: A book of the Hebrew bible

Purgatory: Purgatory is the condition or process of purification or temporary punishment in which the souls of those who die in a state of grace are made ready for heaven.

Reverend Father A title and form of address of Catholic Priests as reverend in God. Ex. Father Amadi

