



# ChurchFramework.Org

## Localization: **English**

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### **INTERVIEW BETWEEN HENRY AYENERO AND YORUBAGIDI TV**

**(1HR 59mins 48secs) From 1-7mins50secs is only introduction (extract from the main interview)**

*YG TV = Yoruba Gidi TV*

*PF =Pastor Femi*

*SH = Sir Henry*

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YG TV: Good day to you all from all over the world wherever you have the opportunity to listen to Yorubagidi TV with Olakunle Fashugba. Today we shall be talking from where we have started this story. This program is not to witch-hunt anyone, rather, it is to seek redress, to wipe away tears of those being tortured by the evil world. For all those who have supported us to be able to carry out what we're doing right now we pray that you will never know shame. If you remember, some time ago we brought certain people here on this show who spent 27 years in prison. We would like to thank you all for your kindness and generosity towards these people, we would like to thank those who sent money to buy a tri-cycle for one of them. The other person has started his business as well after receiving money. We would like to say we value your support

and contribution, thank you. A Yoruba adage says 'More to come is only the sound you hear from a gun', hm. Pastor Oluwafemi Jimoh James has spoken, he happens to be a former pastor of MFM Church, he spent a whole 9years in prison before the court found him guiltless and discharged and acquitted him. The court concluded he had not done any wrong and he was set free.

(clips from the interview held with Pastor Femi)

PF: The court has set me free, let Baba Olukoya not tarnish my image. I am not a thief. There is no thief in my lineage. They were the ones who sent me to prison.

PF: (Showing the transcript of the court proceedings to YG TV Presenter).

YG TV: Is this the court proceedings?

PF: Yes, in the Lagos High Court. This is the judgment where I won. It reads that "I am hereby discharged and acquitted". See the name and seal of the Judge.

YG TV: (Presenter reads out the judgment in English from the proceedings). Then he adds, Mr Caleb, a former Usher in MFM has spoken on how it all happened that he suffered at the hands of the police, and how he spent 9years in prison.

Mr C: (A clips from interview held with Caleb. Caleb speaking in tears said) I thought when I get to church, all my life struggles will end, that my mountains will be brought low, I never knew that it is the church where I go to worship that my life's struggles will be multiplied. If I had died in prison, they would have said truly I wanted to kill Olukoya. My father never gave birth to me as an imbecile, my mother also gave birth to me as a whole able-bodied man. (Shaking his head). I have never held a cutlass or a gun in my life, never. None of my family members has ever done that and I can never do it. I did not do it.

YG TV: Just to remind you that there were three accused people in this matter. Pastor Oluwafemi, Mr. Caleb who was an usher, and a gentleman who is not even a member of MFM at all. His name is Henry. A Yoruba adage says, "when you hunt a prey, you finish the job so as not to turn the prey into a maggot-infested prey", at last, we were able to make a face-to-face meeting with Mr Henry, even though his inability to own a phone made this meeting difficult a little bit. Welcome Mr Henry.

Mr H: Thank you presenter.

YG TV: Can you tell us your name

Mr H: My name is Henry Aiyenero

YG TV: Do you know pastor Oluwafemi?

Mr H: Yes, I know him

YG TV: How did you get to know him?

Mr H: I know him as a Pastor in MFM and I know him in the area where I live. My father built a house in the area where MFM is. I grew up in that area and I know the area very well although I was not close to Pastor, we don't talk, but I knew him as a Pastor before the incident happened.

YG TV: What was your relationship with the Pastor before the incident happened?

Mr H: Thank you, presenter. I have no relationship with him, but he normally comes to have his hair cut at the barbing salon where I worked. He has his personal barber who cuts his hair but mostly when he's done with his haircut, he will give everybody in the salon 'tips'.

YG TV: Are you the owner of the shop?

Mr H: No, my mom owns the shop. So, when he's done with his haircut, he gives everyone money, could be N100, or N200, he gives everyone something. So I cannot say I don't know him, I do know him.

YG TV: What is your full name?

Mr H: Henry Aiyenero

YG TV: Hm, when Pastor Femi was sharing his experience in the prison about police brutality, in his statement he mentioned that three of you were accused, and from the lawsuit that we saw and read, your name was included, how did this come about? How did you end up in the cell?

Mr H: Thank you presenter, how I ended up in a police cell and jail was just a stroke of fate that day. Not that myself and pastor Femi were arrested at the same place or same time.

YG TV: what really happened the day the police arrested you?

Mr H: I went to Sabo to buy fuel at the gas station to power the generator because there was no light. On my way back, I felt rather than take a bus back home I thought of taking a shortcut. At that time there was no gas station in our area at all but now there are some gas stations. So I thought of taking the short-cut route home. I later learnt that the Police are raiding between Aiyemowa and Iyana Church. People kept telling me to go back but I felt since I had nothing to hide why should I go back so I kept on going through the shortcut that I had purposed to take. People told me to turn back but I said I don't have any exhibit with me so why should I? If I turned back that means I will have to take the longer route which I was not prepared to do so I kept on going. Truly by the time I got to church junction I saw the presence of police there. I didn't know what has happened or why the police were there, no I didn't.

YG TV: So, you felt you were close to home?

Mr H: Yes, I thought that was a long way and I was not ready to turn back. So, at Iyana Church, I saw the police. That was what caused the misunderstanding between myself and the Police. There was a police officer who spoke to me directly and asked me to turn back, and I

explained to him that my house was close by and I couldn't turn back to make that long journey that was just the beginning of the problem.

YG TV: So you were wondering you were almost home?

Mr H: Yes. My house is in the heart of Iwaya, why should I turn back. That was where the argument ensued to the extent that the man I was arguing with slapped me and I just said to myself how can this person slapped me?

YG TV: Was the man in police uniform?

Mr H: Yes. Not in police uniform. He only had black trousers on.

YG TV: Did you realize he was a police officer when he slapped you?

Mr H: Before God, I never knew he was a police officer. I thought he was just one of the boys in our area who was asked to stop people from passing. I didn't realize he may have been a CID or informant. I felt it was not right for this man to slap me just because he asked me to go back and I explained that my house is so close by.

YG TV: So, what did you do then?

Mr H: I slapped him back. That was how we started having a fight before the other policemen came. At the end of the day they rough-handled me and they started saying I slapped a police officer. He only had a white T-shirt over a pair of black trousers not a police uniform. If I knew it was a police officer from the start I would not have a good reason for slapping but because he didn't have a uniform on to prove his identity there was no way I would have known who he was. He never showed his ID card, which made me slap him back.

YG TV: When the other policemen came, what did they do?

Mr H: They just pounced on me, rough-handled me, and bundled me to the station. Even the fuel I went to buy, I forgot about it. From police station to cell.

YG TV: We were made to understand that the incident happened in January?

Mr H: I can't remember because it's been a long time.

YG TV: So when you got to the Police station, to the cell, what happened? Please tell us

Mr H: The 1<sup>st</sup> day that I got in the cell, I did not see anybody. It seems when I was being rattled by the police, I had lost my phone so there was no way I could ring anyone. I was just there in the cell. The only thing I remember is that whenever the police came, they would look at me, point and say, "you, you tear police cloth". It was later I got to know that the person we rattled together was a police officer. A young police officer of about my age.

YG TV: So, you never knew before you got to the cell?

Mr H: Never. They all kept saying, “you, your family go buy the clothes”. I then requested access to call my people. They will respond with “they are coming”. For like 4 days, I was in the cell without my family knowing, and I did not have access to call them. It was one boy who was bringing food to me in the cell that I approached to help me call my older brother. I tried to dictate the No to him but because he was not learned, he kept forgetting. Then I asked him to get a piece of paper so I could write the No on a piece of paper. It took a while for him to come back later in the evening and I wrote the No for him. God was so good, I am not sure whether this small boy called my older brother or not but my brother came. My brother was not allowed to speak to me.

YG TV: Like how many days have you spent in the police cell before your brother came?

Mr H: After like 6 days. He came, we saw but I was not allowed to talk to him. No, I did not talk to him because I was not allowed to, they said my IPO was not around. In between those 6 days, ‘many scenarios’ happened.

YG TV: You mean within the 6 days? Like, what happened while you were kept in police cell/custody? And please tell us what sort of cell you were kept?

Mr H: Normal cell with a passage with different rooms.

YG TV: How many of you were there?

Mr H: Ha, we were many? I was in a different cell

YG TV: Was Pastor Femi there with you?

Mr H: No. He was somewhere else in a different place.

YG TV: OK, continue with what you were saying. So, what happened between the 6 days?

Mr H: I think it was the 5<sup>th</sup> day before my brother came that they requested they bring me. I was taken to, I don’t know what name they call it, at the desk (counter), they took me to where they normally take statements. I sat there and later the policemen now came to meet up with me there. Do you understand?(slang)

YG TV: ok

Mr H: They asked for my name and I gave them my name. Fortunately, by the time I mentioned my surname, one of the policemen recognized we're from the same town (area). The policeman now spoke in our dialect asking which AYENERO is my own? So, I told him about my family in that town, he spoke back in our dialect. (YG TV cuts in)

YG TV: Where are you from?

Mr H: I am from Ondo state, Ilaje precisely. So the policeman said that's good they will release you. He asked if I had eaten? I said No, he then requested someone buy me food. I told this policeman I would like to speak with my older brother, that I would like to see my brother for him to come so I can talk to him, So they can arrange for my bail. The policeman said I shouldn't worry that my bail would be arranged, he then said I should sit down and for like 6 hours I was there, they were all going up and down, maybe they went for their usual raiding, even him(referring to the policeman from the same town) before he came back it was around 8:00 PM and later they asked that I be taken back to the cell. Later, that policeman who was from the same town as me asked them to bring me and he and asked me to sweep the compound of that police yard. I was happy sweeping with the belief that at least I had seen someone who was from my town and it would help me secure my bail. While I was with this policeman one-on-one, he said to me that he would like me to do something for him and that if I could do it he would press

for my release. When I heard that, I was hopeful, and I said yes I will do anything provided that would aid my release. I said to him as long as I would be released that was fine because at that time I had lost my telephone and the only number I knew by heart was my older brother's phone number so I really wanted to speak with my brother to ask him to come and see me, I am so convinced that as soon as my brother hears about my detention he will arrange to see me and find a way to get my bail. But I did not have access and unknown to me that young boy had contacted my brother on my behalf. The policeman told me that what he would like me to do for him is that there is a pastor in the cell and he would like me to lie and testify against him. I asked him how he wanted me to do that? He said I would testify that I heard when he was arranging with others to rob MFM, that I should give the testimony in the presence of their boss. I was scared and my heart skipped. The first thing that came to my mind was, why should I lie against someone so that they could release me I was not comfortable with that however I still asked if they would release me if I testified and he said yes so I said that's OK. I then requested to see the person in question. I said at least if I have to testify against someone, I should at least see the person and know the person. I was thinking, assuming if they asked me who is the person at least I should be able to point a finger and answer that this is the person. At the time the policeman was talking to me, there was nobody else, it was only me, the policeman, and God that were there. He told me to go and drop the broom and wait. You know, he asked me to go in and wait where they normally take statements, I had nothing on except for my shorts that I had on and I was waiting in the room. By the time they brought the person to the room (the person they wanted me to lie against), I was shocked to see pastor Femi. They asked him to kneel and the policeman started saying, "you, you want to destroy someone else? You will see hell! What has never happened to anyone before will happen to you.". At that time, I never knew what was going on at all between them, I was just looking. The policeman did not even realize I knew Pastor Femi. Pastor Femi would normally come to our shop to have his hair cut. I was expecting Pastor Femi to say something, but he did not say anything. Even though I saw the way he was being brutalized by the police officer, yet, I could not say a thing. I was waiting to know what exactly was the story with Pastor Femi and the police but after a while, they asked someone to take Pastor Femi back to the prison. After Pastor Femi left, the policeman now said to me that he would like me to testify against him that I overheard Pastor and co planning how they want to carry out their plan. It was then I told the officer that I knew Pastor Femi and I could never lie against him. I told him I couldn't lie since I did not know what transpired between you both. I now said I can't testify against him. Before I could finish the sentence, the officer landed me a hot slap. You know, someone who is under the control of police custody has no say. He then said to me that, "so, you don't want to cooperate abi? Don't worry, I will put you where you do not belong. I did not understand what a meant

YG TV: Is that police officer your IPO?

Mr H: No, but they were more like a team

YG TV: In other words, what you're saying is that they work together, is that correct?

Mr H: Yes, they're a team. I did not understand "*put you in a place you do not belong to*". He was angry so he asked them to take me back to the cell. It is not as if I know pastor Femi from anywhere but I have known him in the neighbourhood and he has conducted himself as a man of God truly. As I was taken to the cell, my cell was close to pastor Femi as I now realised since we

have met officially outside. I was curious to know what had happened so from my cell I would stretch and peep to speak to him in his own cell to ask him what really brought him to the cell. We were beating by the 'writers' blue-black when we were caught speaking to each other.

YG TV: Who are the writers?

Mr H: They are 'writer 1', 'writer 2', the people at the counter, who take statements before anyone is taken into the cell. They are the ones you have to speak to if you have come to visit someone in the prison they would be the ones to go in and bring the person out, they are called writers. The following morning when the police officer came, he asked them to go and give me hot tea. I didn't know what it meant to be given 'hot tea'. Oh my God! They beat me to death! (shaking his head). As they were beating me, the only thing I could hear in the midst of the beating is, "so you really want to expose us" you know I have told you I am going to put you in a place where you do not belong to, I will put you there. I still did not understand what he meant. That evening my brother came, thankfully the writer at the desk was kind enough to allow my brother see me for just few minutes so I was able to narrate my ordeal to my brother. I said to my brother that I did not do anything wrong at all I only went to buy fuel for the generator. I told my elder brother what led to my arrest and I also told him about everything that has happened since I was detained. Even at the point I was telling my brother my own experience I still did not know exactly the problem Pastor Femi had with the police. Since Pastor Femi and I were not put together in the same place for us to be able to talk and for me to ascertain what actually happened, from then on, anytime my brother came, he was not allowed to see me. My brother was told it was an order from the DPO not to allow him see me. The only thing is that they would tell me that my brother came and left food for me. I said to them I was not there to come and eat rather I would like to see my brother so I can talk to him. Even, it was so bad to the extent that I was 'fenced' away from everyone, I was not able to even talk to the police or ask for anything. At that time, I was getting frustrated and thinking to myself how on earth should the issue of fighting with just someone landed me in prison. It was much later I got to know the young man I had issues with was an unidentified police officer. I learnt he was a CID. That was how the scenario started.

YG TV: Altogether, like how many days did you spend at Sabo police station?

Mr H: Hm, presenter, if am not mistaken, I spent about 1 month. As at that time, my hair had grown so badly. I was smelling and I didn't even realise I was smelling. It was when we were taken out that I was conscious of the fact that I smell huh, listen presenter let's just leave it

YG TV: So what really happened?

Mr H: After two weeks it was then I was able to speak to my brother although my brother came, I would hear about his coming and I would not get to speak to him. Eventually, when I was able to speak to my brother, he was the one who told me that it was a serious case they had against me that I had been accused of robbery. One day, the police took me out and they were just driving me around, I did not realize they were trying to show me to people. Meanwhile, during one of the interrogations, they asked me what job I was doing? At the time I was arrested, I had just finished in technical school so I told them I read Building, and he said to me that it was great. Now let me clarify, this was a different police officer entirely not that one from my town. I can still remember some of the names of these police officers, so they asked me if they needed a drawing

for a building what would they need so I told them what they would need? I did my Industrial Attachment with G-Cappa. I was waiting to have money in order for me to proceed. They now said to me that they would need me to draw the diagram of our area from Night market, I mean, Barracks to Onike if truly I am an architect. They told me if I am able to draw the building of the routes to prove that I am an architect they would release me. They gave me pencil and large paper to draw. The names of the officers are Omojuwa and Alhaji Saudi, these 2 IPOs, I know them very well, and these evil people are the same people who came to court to testify against me for something I did not do. I drew the plan and they took the sheet from me.

YG TV: Were you given a cardboard or a what?

Mr H: No, they gave me a sheet of paper. They told me that I would be released once my family members come. I was rejoicing that I would soon be released. Unknown to me, they were also taking Pastor Femi out. I later learnt they took Pastor Femi to Olukoya. I can not go there. They never informed my family about all these things.

YG TV: Which denomination do you belong to? Are you not a member of MFM?

Mr H: Not at all. I am a member of C&S church Iwaya

YG TV: After you have drawn the map what happened?

Mr H: Suddenly, Omojuwa started to threaten me saying that he will show me for wanting to expose them. I was just staring at him because what he was saying did not make sense to me. How can I? I brushed it aside thinking after all, I have helped the police to draw they would soon release me. When my brother explained to me the severity that I was accused of wanting to rob and kill, I wondered what was going on. I would have loved to speak to Pastor Femi but they did not let me have access to him so I just got confused. I noticed that there were about 6 people locked together in the same cell with Pastor Femi, but later, 4 of them were released. The remaining 2 were Pastor Femi and Baba Caleb. I was at the counter the day these 4 men were released, they were led out through the back, I saw them. After I had drawn the diagram for them, they would occasionally untie me to stroll and they would tell me 'the ball was in the court' of my brother, he was the one delaying in bringing money. Sometimes I sat in the writer's room. I was so confident and convinced that I would be released soon.

YG TV: Yeah, because you take fresh air from time to time, right?

Mr H: Yes, I was convinced that my days are numbered in that cell. One day from nowhere I just heard that Pastor Femi's hands were swollen, so high in size and was wondering what happened to him. I was not able to go to his cell to ask him what happened because there was a gate between our cells. We can only talk, we don't even see each other's faces while in the cell talking but we can identify each other through our voices. Pastor Femi later said how they shot him in the leg. It was one boy that was helping him to look after his hand and leg. One young boy, Marshall who was left to roam the passage, the boy was executed eventually. I know what am talking about. The boy's name was Kehinde, from Lagos Island. I don't know what he did, but I met him there, and he was our Marshall.

YG TV: So he died there?

Mr H: After they killed him they called me and Pastor Femi, Mr Caleb and one other guy, around 7:00 AM or thereabout in the morning. They called us to come and carry his dead body and put him in the car. In the middle of the night, we heard when they came to call Marshall, after,



we heard gunshots, and that was it, he never came back. It was in the morning that we knew what had happened. When I saw the dead body of that boy, from that moment, panic gripped me, I could not even talk. I have never seen anything like that before. Suddenly police officer Omojuwa pointed at Pastor Femi and said, “you, you are the next, and after, you, he pointed to Caleb, it would be your turn, and as for you, pointing at me now, he said, “I am still pitying you because you are from my village, if not, I would have used this gun to break your head”. He then said to all four of us, “take him to the car”, pointing at the dead Marshall. I cannot say for sure where they took the dead body of this boy whether they took him to the Mortuary or they buried him, I just don’t know. I could not talk because I was afraid so they wouldn’t implicate me the more. In short, a lot of scenarios happened inside that cell that I cannot even figure out, I hope you understand. Now after I have been told that I would be released, I was still hopeful about that but I noticed that sometimes they would come and pick me and Take Me Out, they’ll put me in the van to patrol with them, arresting people along the way, still, they won’t release me to let me go.

YG TV: Do they chain your hands and legs still?

Mr H: Yes, yes they tied my hands and legs, sometimes I keep my hands under my shirt. I never made any attempt to run away because I didn’t want them to shoot me and because my conscience was free and I never even believed I could be charged to court until the day they told me they were taking me to court. They told me to call my brother to meet up with me at the court that was around 2:00 PM, unfortunately by the time we got to the Court House, court proceedings had closed for the day and I think that was deliberate, that day was on a Friday and we were told to come back the following Monday. Before Monday, we heard that they had received a signal that we should be transferred to SARS. It was then that the reality of what I was facing now dawned on me, a case of murder. What I kept on wondering what, “What is my own with this man?” I am not even a member of their church. My brother had to pay someone to see if they could secure my release. At that time I had spent over 4 weeks and I was still wondering what I was doing there and why I was connected with the murder case, I was angry and thought my brother was not doing enough. My brother paid someone who took 70,000 from him and still I was not released. It was when my brother came and I was furious and giving out to ask why they have not secured my release that my brother now told me that it seems you don’t even know why you have been brought here. My brother then told me that he was told I was involved in an attempted murder of G.O Olukoya, I was shocked. It then dawned on me what the police I’ve been doing with me so I told my brother how they took us out one day with pastor family Femi, one morning, that would be the 1<sup>st</sup> time I would be taking out together with Pastor Femi. They took us to a place and when we got there I saw cameramen, the same diagram they had told me to draw for them they put it in front of us, policemen were there as well. I could not even talk.

YG TV: So they took you somewhere?

Mr H: Yes, they did. That place was like a restaurant or hotel, they asked us to sit down, put the diagram in front of me and pastor family, and they asked us to be talking to each other and be drinking. I refused to drink because I don’t drink and I kept on wondering what was going on.

YG TV: what were you both talking about?

Mr H: They just forced us to be talking, just to say anything and they were recording. Sometimes they would pause the camera, pause the drink on the floor, start recording again. I

wanted to ask Pastor Femi what was going on but he could not talk because he had been shot at that time and he had been going through pain. In fact, I really had pity on him because I thought he was going to die and on the other hand, he too was taking pity on me. I wanted him to actually talk so I could know exactly what was going on but he didn't say anything. He refused to say what happened to anyone even when we got back to prison and because of that I fell out with him I never spoke with him for like 3 years, it was through the prison warders that I got to know what happened. The prison warder's called Mr Femi and I and they explained to me why he was arrested it was then I told him that the day they brought him to see me they had told me to lie against him. Both of us now started recounting our experiences since we got to prison and it started to make sense what the police were doing with us.

YG TV: when you were detained at Sabo police station, did you write a statement?

Mr H: Hmm, no, I did not, I did not write a statement.

YG TV: And they didn't ask you to write a statement?

Mr H: No. But by the time we got to SARS my brother told me that he was told I wrote a statement and I said no I never wrote any statement that the only thing I can remember was that one of the police officers said he wanted to build a house that when am released they would give me a job to draw and to prove my profession, they asked me to draw. I did not write any statement until we got to court.

YG TV: So, what happened when you go to SARS?

H: God so good we landed in the hands of maybe SUPO Promise, his name is Promise but I can't remember his rank. But I remember he had a guy who was like an assistant. It was that one that was always tackling us. That assistant guy was like a sent enemy to us. Once that Inspector or SUPO is gone, ha, he may ask that Pastor Femi be brought out and lie down in the sun.

YG TV: How about you, is it that they don't touch you?

H: Ha, me, they beat me silly, they hung me, if I show you my body, even this my arm, my shoulder (touching his shoulder), is dislocated till now.

YG TV: What happened?

H: While we were at Sabo before we were moved to SARS, I think 2-3 days before we were moved to SARS, they just came to call me, in the evening, which was my IPO, that I did not want to confess to how Pastor Femi wanted to rob. So I explained that they knew how I got to the police custody so how am I supposed to know what brought Pastor Femi? I then told them that they were there when the police officer sprayed tear-gas in my eyes.

YG TV: Did they actually spray tear gas into your eyes?

H: Even as I am talking, my eyes no longer see well. It still affects me till now.

YG TV: Can you read?

H: I can only read bold letters, now even phone or small characters. Even when I wake up in the morning, I struggle to see.

YG TV: Which means you need medical treatment for your eyes?

Mr H: Yes presenter.

YG TV: How did the issue of shoulder happen?

Mr H: That happened when I was hung. When I was beaten and they were instructed to give me hot tea.

YG TV: Was it at Sabo?

Mr H: It happened at Sabo and SARS. When I heard they wanted to give me tea, I was so happy thanking God that at least I would drink tea. By the time they took me to the back, it was not normal tea they wanted to give me. They twisted my hand and tied it to the back, then my legs, and then they used a handcuff to tie both my hands and legs together, they now hung me up. When the pain got so much, I confessed to what I did not know about. When I could not bear it, that I was almost losing my life. For almost 4 days, it was those who were with me in the cell that were helping me to massage my legs. If I sat down my legs would start shaking, it is still affecting my knees and my shoulders till now.

YG TV: Even till now?

Mr H: Yes, till now. The pain would come and then disappear and reoccur again, and stop, till now. It could be another three months four months I would feel the pains again on my shoulder and my neck, my right shoulder and my neck, being hanged for almost 1hr and being tortured is not a joke. Let me tell you if you are not strong if they hung you the way I was hung and the way they normally hanged people, you will commit. I know a lot of inmates who never survived after they hung them. Some lost their spinal cords, their spinal cords were broken, they died in my presence, so what do you expect me to do, I had no choice but to confess to what I did not do. I will see my mother and brother afar off and I can't even talk to them. To be honest I really don't know the kind of power these police officers have that they were able to stage manage everything, put everything together and to make matters worse the lawyer that I thought was fighting for me, that I thought would do the job I didn't even know that it was the police officers who recommended the lawyer to my brother and my family members.

YG TV: Who recommended the lawyer?

Mr H: The police did. They recommended the lawyer it was later my brother was telling me about it. It was the prison chaplaincy that really helped me. That's why, I would like to thank JDBC, Church of Assumption, Falomo, Ikoyi and Charismatic Renewal (Church of Assumption, Falomo), and all Prison Ministers in Church of Assumption Falomo and the whole diocese of Lagos State. They come from everywhere to have fellowship with us every Sunday. That was why I vowed never to attend any Pentecostal church, the kindness made me to join the catholic church. Because as at that time, nobody, they were the only ones who were there. I would like to thank Pastor Adeyemi Jacob, he is a Rev Fr., in one catholic church in MazaMaza. He comes all the way from MazaMaza to Ikoyi to fellowship with us every Sunday. Sometimes, it could be Wednesday or Friday, he just have to come. He comes with gifts, It was from there I developed interest in Catholic Church. I fought with Pastor Femi and resented him, I told him he was not a Pastor but later, I was convinced beyond doubt that he was a genuine Pastor.

YG TV: So, what happened when you got to Ikoyi Prison?

Mr H: Hm, "a story for me to write. What my eyes have seen under the 4 pillars of Ikoyi prison between me and MFM. That is a different story on its own"

YG TV: How did you come to think MFM had a hand in what happened to you?

Mr H: They have a hand. They sent their representatives, while I was at the station, I use to see them. There was a time that the DPO sent for us, myself, Pastor Femi and Baba Caleb, I never knew they were there because I really didn't recognize anyone. They asked us to kneel down. It was after we had started attending court sessions that Pastor Femi was telling me who those people were and their rankings in their church. They were about 7. They asked me if I knew any of those people who came from MFM, I said I did not know any of them and they also said they didn't know me.

YG TV: So, you mean the people from MFM said they didn't know you?

Mr H: Yes, they said they didn't know me. So they put me aside. They now faced Pastor Femi and Caleb. We were all on our knees in front of the DPO. The DPO then said, until we went to court, that if the court set us free, fine, if not, if they jail us, we would learn our lessons. The truth is, I could not even talk. I have been waiting for this opportunity for good 17 years, I did not. Presenter, let me not lie to you, many are suffering there, you will not believe except you go there and speak to them, I am not lying, this is what I witnessed. I am not here to lie against anyone. After 9 years in prison, I have been at home for 8 years after the court had discharged and acquitted us, by July 1<sup>st</sup>, it will be 9 years that we have been set free but since then, I have not seen from MFM that they were sober. Even in my area, the stigma is still there but I just show braveness, waiting for the day someone will call me a thief but they gossip behind me, but I have been waiting for a day like this.

(Presenter cuts in)

YG TV: How did you get a lawyer who fought for you at last since you alleged the 1<sup>st</sup> lawyer your brother got compromised?

Mr H: Thank you presenter. You see the issue of that lawyer, was more than we can say. After that one, we got another one call Barnabas or Agbakoba or so, that one too collected money and left. A lot happened in SARS also. They incited the assistant IPO that they handed our file to against us in order to be killed.

YG TV: In what way?

Mr H: Fine, we were in the cell, no freedom, no movement. We were kept in an open roof cell. Rain beats us, sun beats us. The wounded are there who have been shot. People excrete and urinate in the same cell. God is good. I was so uncomfortable, even Baba Caleb would have died in that prison if not for the same Pastor because he was starting to show signs of mental illness. If you talk to him, you will observe he will be talking about something else. In any case, what I was trying to say is that, that Sabo police station was even better than SARS in the sense that in the middle of the night, they will come and call out names and march them out of the prison, it could be 5 or 10 people, the next thing you hear is the sound of gunshots and later they will come and get some inmates to come and pack the dead bodies. It is the people who went to pack the dead bodies that would come back and tell us what happened. Oh, I remember, they call that act of killing 'travelling'. I remember when I first got there, the policemen used to tell Pastor Femi and Caleb that "you, you will soon travel. You want to kill Olukoya abi". I never knew the meaning of their 'travel' is 'killing'. While we were at SARS, I am convinced the assistant to the IPO was somehow connected to MFM, he was a traitor and he also compromised. It seems our

IPO lives very far away from SARS and so he resumes work late. There was a day this assistant IPO chained us together with some inmates they wanted to kill.

YG TV: You mean, they handcuffed the 3 of you together with the people they wanted to kill?

Mr H: Yes, they did. I didn't even know. This is how I am aware the man is around every time, whenever the man comes in the morning, he will call the 3 of us, myself, Pastor Femi, and Baba Caleb. He will give us water and food and ask us to sit outside. He will sometimes give us food and water.

YG TV: Who are you talking about?

Mr H: I mean the IPO who is in charge of our case in SARS.

YG TV: Oh, ok, so he in a way was stylishly looking after you.

Mr H: Yes, despite the castigation on us he didn't take us like that, I think he was trying to observe and watch certain things.

He called me one day to ask that he heard I was not a member of MFM? I said yes. He asked me what happened? I explained everything. He was surprised and pained. He then asked for my brother's No. In my presence, he rang my brother and told him to liaise with other family members to see how they can bail us. Let me point out something, there was a day when police man came, I think his name is Kunle or so, from the day he heard my name is Henry, he vowed to kill me because he too is Henry and he said he can't share the same name with an armed robber, he called me a 'master planner' and I was wondering why he called me that. He swore that he was going to kill me. I got back to the cell, at that time, they had put us together and I told Pastor what happened to me. At that time Pastor Femi had started telling me bit by bit what happened to him and why those charges were brought against him. I told Pastor Femi my release is what matters to me. My mother would come and cry and cry, the police would bullshit her, calling her names, saying she raised an armed robber. And then I would wonder, how am I an armed robber when I have not stolen anything. That's why I purposed in my heart that I will go back to that street so they can see that I have been released even though I know it is dangerous. Even as I am speaking now, I know my life is at risk, they know me very well, they know my family, they know where I live, they know my wife and know my child.

YG TV: Who are you referring to?

Mr H: This MFM. They know me. Even the thugs they used, they know me. Even the OPC members they used, they know me. This is my area and we are all area neighbours, but our lifestyle can not be the same, do you understand.

YG TV: (Shaking his head in agreement)

Mr H: You can choose to be a Contractor, and I decide to be a Doctor, another might choose to be an Engineering (meant Engineer), that is life, we live in the same vicinity, and we know the people they were using. After the IPO had left us. That Kunle (police officer) came, that day was a Friday. Initially, the IPO told us before he left that he had spoken to our family members and that they would come. He told us he was going to be off till Monday and he left. After he left, around 6pm in the evening or thereabout, Inspector Kunle came. He called me with hatred, he just hated me because I share the same name with him, he had said he should have used gunshots to break my legs, as at that time, Pastor Femi .....(Presenter interjected)

YG TV: Is your own name Kunle?

Mr H: No, Inspector Kunle said he bears Henry as well. Since he got to know my name is Henry, he has been on my case, and he said, “you thief, you bear the same name with me”. I said No, am not a thief, but he shut me up. He threatened that if I say one more word he will shoot me and truly, he shot a gun but not at my leg. Pls ask Baba Caleb about this incident, although, I am not sure if he can still remember. He shot beside my leg that I actually thought the bullet had penetrated. I just kept mute from then on for fear of being shot.

Like I was saying, that day, he just called me, “Henry, bastard boy, thief”, he tied me with a handcuff. Although, I didn’t have a leg chain like Pastor Femi and Baba Caleb, they had their legs chained together in such a way that, if one has to use the toilet, the other has to go with him. Then, they had my handcuff chained with Pastor Femi’s hands. Peradventure one of them is asleep and I need to use the toilet, they all will have to get up and go with me, that is for you to know what we went through.

YG TV: How big was the cell?

Mr H: The size of a one-room

YG TV: How many inmates were there?

Mr H: More than 150. Do you know what is called “cango your leg”? Let me describe to you how we were treated. They would line us up, squatting in front of one another like a pack of sardine. Packed in a row, sitting in between the laps of one another like that, like that. We sleep on each other like that. There was nothing we could do. If rain falls or sun shines, it was on us. Those with wounds, smell of blood, urine, excrete, all together. So, this Kunle called us, all chained together, then he called another guy, he chained him with us. We didn’t know what was going on, but you see if God wants to do something, He will do it in a miraculous way. Can you imagine our IPO who had told us since 11am that he would not see us again until Monday morning just came back around 7pm. He then called both me and Pastor Femi. Pastor Femi got up, remember I told you we had been chained with other people, by the time I got up and those people got up, because we have no independence of movement anymore, we all move together. By the time about 7 of us that have been chained together got up, the IPO was shocked and he raised an alarm. He now asked who handcuffed us together with the other people. That was the day I knew for sure that when they say “travelling”, it means “next to die”. The IPO now said, “who handcuffed you with those who are travelling?” That was the exact words that came out from his mouth. By the time he got to know who tied us up together, he was told the person had left. He called up the person and asked him to bring the key to the handcuffs and the IPO waited. The IPO waited till around 9pm for Inspector Kunle to bring the key. When Inspector Kunle came, the IPO took the keys from him, he separated us and then re-handcuffed myself, Pastor Femi and Baba Caleb together. He now told us that if anyone came to announce our names to call us, we must not answer to such call. That incident created a friction between him and his assistant. The day we were meant to go to court, he (IPO) came very early around 6am to pick us, he called our family members to make sure they got there on or before 7am or else he would not wait for anyone. It was when we got to court that I got to know why he did what he did. He took us to meet one man from SARS, by the name GHAJI, with due respect, I do not even know if he is

retired now or not. That GHAJI man pronounced 3 sentences which I never forgot. When we were taken to meet him, the man looked us up and down, we met him at his office. He was eating either kolanut or bitter kola, our case file was in front of him. After fixing his gaze at the 3 of us for a while, the 1<sup>st</sup> thing that came out of his mouth was, “these ones are not robbers”. Then he asked us to open our palms, we did, then he asked us to show the back of our palms, we did, then he said, no, these ones are not robbers. The 3<sup>rd</sup> thing he said was that, he told our IPO that, “once their family members have come, prepare and take them to court. Then he now concluded by saying, “If God deliver you from court, and you don’t end up in prison, when you come out, learn from what you have passed through”. He now asked us to go. When we were returned back to cell, and the people in the cell wanted to know what happened where we went to? We normally ask each other whenever we were taken out. After telling them we met GHAJI and he said this and that, the other inmates rejoiced with us and said they will soon take us to court. They asked if he were asked to sign, we said No. The inmates said we were lucky not to have signed or else that would have been the end. Monday morning, one inspector or SUPO, maybe Promise or so is his name, came and told us to go and bathe. I was like, bathe? I have never bathe in few months. My hair was like, can’t even say, my nails were as long as you can imagine. He had told our family members to bring changing clothes when coming. By 7.30 am, our family members started arriving. By 7.45am we were taken straight to Ogba Elefo Court, Oyingbo without having the opportunity to see or speak to anyone. It was from there they ordered that we should be remanded. While we were at the court, this same MFM people came to tackle us in court, they were claiming they know us this and that, infact, it caused a big uproar because our lawyer was asking from where do they know me? Remember I said something that, before our IPO said if anybody came to call us apart from him, we must not answer, and he also told us that if anybody brought food for us to eat, we must not eat. They brought food 2ce for us that we were not the ones who ate the food. The 2 people who ate the food died.

YG TV: Who were those who brought you food.

Mr H: We were in the cell and we were told that MFM people came to visit. Let me make it clear, I have not come to discredit the name of MFM o.

YG TV: And they said they brought you food?

Mr H: I actually thought Pastor Femi knew them. I am not saying this to discredit the name of MFM. Later when the food was given to us, I was the one called and I told Pastor Femi to come and meet those who brought food from MFM, Pastor Femi said he didn’t know them. At that time we remember that our IPO had told us that if anyone brought us food, we must not eat so we refused to eat. We were actually fasting at that time. There was one boy who said he was hungry and wanted to eat but we scolded him for wanting to break his fast because we normally fast and do praise and worship. He said he was hungry and can’t wait so we let him eat the food. The boy died for fun. Maybe his family members got his corpse or not, I can’t say, but I am saying the truth, I can’t lie and God sees me if I have come to lie against MFM or to tackle the church. What has been my pain is that there hasn’t been any remorse shown from MFM. Because of the attitude of MFM, I have sworn never to attend any ‘Protestant’ Church.

YG TV: Do you mean Pentecostal Church?

Mr H: Yes. When I compare the attitude of those coming from MFM and I compare with that of people from Catholic, I can see the difference clearly. They only call on Jesus, Jesus, they don't have any caring attitude. May God forgive me if it is a sin. It pays me to continue with my Catholic faith. They stood by me. Even when I went to court, they sent a lawyer to come and attend the session. If not that my family already had a lawyer, they could have provided a lawyer for me. That's why I told you that the question you asked about what my eyes have seen in Ikoyi prison and MFM experience, is a story I would like to write about, I am handicapped because I am "financially flamboyant", (Presenter cuts in)

YG TV: Financially bouyant

Mr H: Yes. I will write a book. In any case, we were taken back to the prison. It was while we were in prison that I got to know the whole story, that Pastor Femi now told me the whole story. While we were in prison, they came again.

YG TV: Who came?

Mr H: MFM. We were told our family members came to see us. By the time I got out to see who they were, I told the warders I did not know them. I asked Pastor Femi if he knew them. He said no. The warders then walked them out with the food they brought. The lawyer that my family got for me, anytime we had a case, would come late or not show up at all and he was taking money until we got to understand what was going on. We started throwing questions at him and we later found out that he had been bought. We decided to change him before the case got out of hand. It was while in prison that I had the opportunity to enrol myself in National Open University. I still had the ambition to go to school and with the help of the Archdioceses of Lagos state and Rev Fr. Adeyemi that was soliciting funds for us for sponsorship I was one of the people that gained admission. By the time I left prison, I could not further because the programme was meant for inmates. I did my Industrial Attachment (IT) at the National Museum. I did IT but was not able to further.

YG TV: Were you still in prison when you did your IT?

Mr H: No, I had been released. That was 2016

YG TV: 2015 was the year the court ruled that you had not done anything wrong, that you should be released. Discharged and acquitted. Did you even have the privilege of watching the video of the interview conducted with Pastor Femi and Baba Caleb?

Mr H: Hm, I do not have a phone but because I was popular in my area, one of my 'area older brothers' was the one who called his younger brother who happens to be my friend. Infact, when the issue broke out, the police was looking for all of my friends to implicate them by saying I was a cult member. That was one of the main things they used to 'rope' me in the matter, they said I was the 'master planner', that I was a cult member.



YG TV: Hm, so they alleged that you were the 'master planner' for the alleged assassination of GO Olukoya and supposed attempted robbery.

Mr H: I have not had the chance to talk, only my family members know that I am not as they portrayed me to be. It was that uncle in the US who called his brother and asked him to locate me to tell me he would like to talk to me. Then a friend of mine saw me and asked me if I have heard about what was trending on social media? I told him I had no clue. He said about Pastor Femi, and I said I have no clue. So he asked me to see him because it is not something we can talk on phone.

He asked if I have a phone? At that time I had retrieved my line but no phone to use it. What I do is to insert my SIM in someone else's phone and use. That was the reason people were trying to reach me but they couldn't. Then I went to Ikorodu to see a childhood friend of mine, her aunt was having a birthday party so my friend invited me so I won't just be staying at home. It was his phone that I inserted my SIM that the call of my friend whose older brother is in the US came through. My friend asked if I have heard what was trending? I said No. He was the one who told me what it was. I told him Pastor Femi does not have my No and I do not know how to reach him. The last time we spoke, he said he was in Ajah, I reside in Mainland, so that was it. After he told me what has been trending, I became restless. I knew somehow Pastor Femi would have been trying to reach me so I decided to go back home. I decided to go to all my childhood friends to seek help to get a phone. Look at this phone (Henry brought out a phone), someone gave it to me but as it is, the battery would have gone off because I am managing it). I was actually expecting Pastor Femi to call but I do not have his phone No.

YG TV: OK, let's move on. We thank God that we carried out our investigation and we had the opportunity to reach you. At this junction, can I ask you what you really wanted?

Mr H: What I want? I don't think I understand you presenter. Can you elaborate please.

YG TV: Yes, I mean, at this junction what you want because in the past, some people have 'broadcasted' that you attempted to murder GO Olukoya and to rob his church. We have the opportunity to see some of the newspapers and magazines that published the story then, and we know that both radio and tv stations would have broadcasted the story as well. Now that the court had ruled that you were not criminals and you were discharged and acquitted. Have you come across any newspapers or magazines that broadcasted or published the court ruling?

Mr H: Nothing like that

YG TV: Based on that, what do you desire?

Mr H: Before God who created heavens and the earth, the one who made it possible for us to be talking right now, I am not asking MFM to give me anything, at least since 8 years that I have been acquitted, are they the ones feeding me but what gives me trauma is the castigation even though they cannot say it to my face, they say it behind. Even when I am told, I am waiting for the person that would say it to my face. I am not a thief, I am not a murderer. I remember when we were at SARS, we were taken to CP conference, where they would line inmates up, parade them

to show these are the criminals we have apprehended. They would now put guns in front, different media houses would be there to cover the conference.

YG TV: Did they put guns in front of you as well?

Mr H: Ha, all kinds. The reporters didn't ask me questions. IT was the police that were speaking. That's why I have been waiting for a day like this to speak my mind. I thank God for those sponsoring this programme. (Presenter cuts in)

YG TV: No one is sponsoring the programme. Only God

Mr H: May God bless you with wisdom and knowledge. Many are suffering like this, no one to help them or allow them speak out. The reason why I said I have a story to write. This is the story, when we were taken to that Conference, we have not been referred to SARS then, it was from Sabo we were taken there. Then, Pastor Femi has been shot, they have broken his hand. I don't know what was done to him, his 4 fingers swelled up (Henry made gesture to show how swollen Pastor Femi's hand was). Even his finger was removed. At the conference they were telling everyone that I was the master planner, the ring leader, this one was the security blab la bla. It wa later when my younger brother came to see me that he was crying to say that he say my picture in the newspapers with our names. My brother brought the newspaper with the hope that our lawyer would use the evidencde to fight our case, the lawyer never did. The judge asked the lawyer, Justice Olusola Williams, justice of the Federal High Court, Igboere, the judge asked our lawyer that these people mentioned something, where is the evidence to prove that MFM published their names? The lawyer denied tht there was nothing like that. IT was from there I told Pator Femi that the lawyer is an enemy. Not qute long after that they transferred Pastor Femi to Maximum prison so we won't have the chance to communicate. You see if God wants to do a thing, He will do it that all glory and thanks will go to Him. Whenever I wanted to sit for my exam with Open University, my centre is always atkoyi. Navy town. Remember I told you about Rev Fr Adeyemi, he is at St Monica, Mazamaza and the people at The Church of Assumption Falomo, they were the onew who bore all of the expenses. Whenever I went, I would see Pastor Femi.

YG TV: So, in all the 9 years, trial was on, no judgment?

Mr H: Yes, only trial, no judgment. This is my point, Even though I live in that area and my house is not far from MFM, in all of these period till now, I have never seen any of their Pastor to come and say, hello or to even apologize for what happened. People talk about this issue as if it was true and this is so hard and painful. I worked at a company which I dodn't want to mention for security purpose, I was their sales executive, I was very good at my job to the extent that I had an official car, do you know from the moment they heard about what happened, they relieved me of my duty and position. I was not asked anything, they just terminated my employment just like that after a year of dedication.

YG TV: Maybe it was because of the accusations and law suit

Mr H: Yes, that has always been my pain. I try to encourage myself. I thank God for my wife, she stood by me.

YG TV: You mean your wife stood by you for 9 years?

Mr H: Yes, she stood by me. She was there for me, with my mother, my brother and my sister. There was not court hearing day that they would not show up. I see them everytime.

YG TV: Your wife really tried. 9 years!

Mr H: She waited. But MFM never came back to apologize but I said something, I have forgiven them, I said it before I left the prison. Although, I am not supposed to say this out because it is between me and my God but I am saying it, I have forgiven them. I said to God, "Oh God, if truly I have suffered for what I do not know anything about, vindicate me, but if I knew about the accusations, let me die in prison" I said to God that I will not because of what happened go and revenge but I leave everything in your hands, judge the way you want. Let me tell you something, do you know that all those who testified against me falsely, they were all brought back to that prison.

YG TV: You mean you had the opportunity to see them in prison?

Mr H: Yes, yes. All of them.

YG TV: Who were those people used to testify against you in court?

Mr H: They used area boys. They used OPC. The area boys like Pure and some other guys.

YG TV: What is the relationship of these guys with MFM?

Mr H: I heard they are like the bodyguards of GO, not sure, but one thing I am sure of is that, they work for MFM. The OPC guys they used include, Omojomolo, Aboki, Tajudeen Oseni. Two of these guys have even joined the police force.

YG TV: Among these ones, who are those ones who were remanded in prison?

Mr H: Omojomolo was remanded, bailed and re-remanded. He is now a police officer. They were arrested because they are land-fighters who take land from people by force. You know when people get to prison, they don't hide anything.

YG TV: So, how did you get to know that they were used against you?

Mr H: God bless you presenter. As at that time, I have become a full catholic member, I was working directly with the prison chaplaincy discese which is Rev Fr Adeyemi, Dr. Okogie Bishop Emeritus, ehn he stepped eown Adewale martins, I was there to receive anything they brought to cater for the catholic inmates there, I was like their eyes there. I was more or less born again. I had forgiven them, if not, when the guy came to prison, I should be one of the people who would beat him but I didn't but hw was still beaten.

YG TV: Did they beat him?

Mr H: Of course, they beat him. I told them that oh, this is the guy who lied against me to put me behind bars. You know the story was trnding, they treated me like a criminal who wanted to kill Olukoya. Wjen they arrived, I told other inmates what they did and everythime we went to court, I was alays telling the inmates what happened. As at that time, they were all getting to know the truth. There was a DCP, Idera was his name, he just took a liking for me, sometimes he

would ask them to go and bring me to his office. He would engage me in a dialogue asking me what I think can be done to help inmates. As at that time I was in my 200 level with the Open University. They were studying me to know if what they have heard about me was true or not but as they found out nothing was true, the man just liked me. So, this guy who came to prison was beaten blue-black, infact, I was the one begging for him. He later begged me for forgiveness and I forgave him. You see, God is great! 2 days before I would be released, he was brought back to prison again. When he was brought back, that was the time we had the chance to talk, seeing that I was a different person entirely. He asked for forgiveness and confessed whatever they did, they did at the time of ignorance. That they were asked to lie against us, they did and he later regretted.

YG TV: Did you ask him how much they were given?

Mr H: He said they bought a car for them. It seems they give them 500k and gave them a danfo van. I just felt if the guilty is aware of their sin and they ask for forgiveness, who am I not to forgive so I forgave him. This is my pain with Dr Olukoya, with due respect. I am not here to tarnish his image or the image of his church, but why? This is not good. If I think of how painful this is, I would by now be living a reckless life because of what happened but I have mad a covenant with my God that I will never take revenge. What I am saying to you is not to Pastor's knowledge, he doesn't know. I am not supposed to say it out but I have to.

YG TV: At the time you were in prison, did Pastor Femi explain to you what really happened? Maybe he told you what offense he committed against the church that made the church to lie against him?

Mr H: What I noticed that even wanted to cause quarrel between Pastor and I was that, there were 2 people that came to testify at the court, one from Ogbomoso or so, not to lie to you, from the little I can remember, he said he was a carpenter, that Pastor Femi gave him a job but before he knew Pastor Femi, he had known Baba Gbadamosi. During the time of trial in court, it was MFM that brought their members to testify. After their church members, they brought to court the same hooligans I was referring to testify. Then the DPO of Sabo police station, DPO Samuel, he was not a DPO then, he was in Jos or so, would you believe he was flown from Jos to come and testify against us. All of them testified! I did not even know what was going on in their church, at that time Pastor Femi had been moved to Maximum prison from Ikoyi, we only communicate at the court. I have never seen that boy whose father was Fetish priest until the day he came to testify at the court. Later I was given the privilege to speak with Pastor Femi, remember I told you I fell out with Pastor Femi. To me I felt, I was set up by Pastor Femi, I never liked him but people were now telling me to calm down. Even Baba Caleb, I refuse to talk to both of them because I was not their church member.

YG TV: Hm, so you felt they committed a crime which they didn't confess to and they implicated you?

Mr H: What I thought brought me to this case was my refusal to co-operate with the police to lie against pastor Femi. The police must have felt since I refused to cooperate with their lies, if they released me, I will go and narrate the story to the people hence their refusal to release me and implicate me the more. When the boy from Ogbomosho came, he said Baba Gbadamosi has been a customer of his father and that Baba Gbadamosi use to come see his father to seek for spiritual help. I really don't know but I think Pastor Femi was posted to that area for Evangelical work, he hired that boy to work for them and when they didn't see the boy to carry out the said work, they went looking for him and then met Baba Gbadamosi at the herbalist house who happens to be the father of that boy that came to court. I think this was where their problem started from, or there might even be other issues aside that which led to his being implicated, Pastor Femi never told me that. But the guy came to the court.

YG TV: Is this not the same Gbadamosi that was said to be the CSO of Olukoya?

Mr H: Yes, chief security officer for real. He was the one behind every thing.

YG TV: Did you have the chance to speak to him (referring to Gbadamosi)?

Mr H: You don't understand, he had told them that he didn't know me and he has no problem with me. His attention was on Pastor Femi. They never allowed me to talk. That was the reason I was angry with Pastor Femi. Infact it was the prison warders who explained to me clearly what the issue was and I now decided to let go of my anger with Pastor Femi. Then again, the guy who was working at the bar that the police took us to came to court to testify. The bar where they took us to and asked us to start talking to each other, they placed bottles of beer in front of us, that guy came to testify. It was then I got a clearer picture of the whole thing. I then asked Pastor Femi what his offence was for them to have implicated him that much? Pastor Femi said he had no idea what he had done to them. I told him he did something. I asked if he had told Dr Olukoya he saw this man at a herbalist place? He said he never told Olukoya. I then told Pastor Femi to go and beg them so they can release me even if they won't release him that he should let them know I am not involved in their church matter. The guy who came to court to confess about the hotel said, after the police came to him that they would like to use his hotel, what am telling you is what happened at the court proceedings, it is documented in our case file even, you also can go and check these facts. He said it was after we were brought to his hotel to shoot the video and he saw us on TV that his guilty conscience made him restless and give him sleepless nights. As at the time his hotel was used, he was paid for the services, his boss later sacked him when he got to know what he did.

YG TV: So, he was the manager of the hotel?

Mr H: Yes, guilty conscience would not let him rest. I don't know how he reconnected with Pastor Femi but I heard in court that the Lawyer said he was the one that brought the hotel manager. He had actually went to Maximum prison to see Pastor Femi to confess and it was from

there that Pastor Femi asked him to go and see his lawyer to confess and tell him everything. This guy told the judge how the police arranged all the set up and the judge was convinced. My name is Henry Ayenero. I would like to tell all those listening to me right now that I am not a thief, and I am not a murderer. It is that level of murderer that brings me so much pain anytime I remember, because whenever people look at me they just say to themselves, “this one, he’s an assassin”. Those who don’t even know who you are, will just decide within a second and form an opinion on who they think you are. I feel pained but how can I fight for myself if not for this opportunity that just came up. I have waited for the opportunity of a trial for good 9 years before Justice Olusola Williams of High Court, Igbosere passed the judgment of ‘discharged and acquitted’, that we are neither murderers nor robbers, that we should go and sin no more. But how about those who heard about the allegations, did they hear about the judgment? Still, the stigma is there, people see us through the eyes of criminals. They just call you an ex-convict for no reason, this is very painful for me. They don’t want to know the difference between awaiting trial and convicted criminal. Everything I passed through has affected me, the treatment, brutality, the beatings, if I undress, you will see that my shoulders are not equal, even my eyes, I can’t see clearly anymore due to tear gas and slaps but where there is no help there is nothing I can do. I am even afraid that this interview might affect me where I work presently. I call on meaningful Nigerians to help me and help us redeem our name and image, even for good 17 years people are still talking about it. There was a day I cried to my mother to tell her how frustrated I am to the extent that I told her I might hurt anyone who call me names. My mother and brother were the ones who calmed me down not to do anything stupid, they encouraged me to let go. Imagine me playing with someone and another person called the person not to play with me so I won’t kill the person as I planned to kill Olukoya, can you imagine that! It is so painful that this thing did not happen, it was just fabricated. I learnt all the police officers who were on the case were given promotion. Yes. Let this be verified. Let the date of their promotion and the date of the incident be verified. They all got promoted but that is not even the issue. What matters to me now is how to redeem my name and the names of the other 2 people that we are involved in this case so that we would not continue to carry the stigma of ‘murderer’. We are parents now. It is what they say about us to our face that they would say to our children. I am pleading to well-meaning Nigerians to help me, both home and abroad. Help me redeem my name. I am not here to tarnish the name of Olukoya or his church but it is what happened to me that I am relating. No school of experience, it is what you pass through that gives experience. Up till now, I just go on my own. No friend, no nothing, it is, greet me, I greet you, if you don’t greet me, I go on my own. That’s all

YG TV: If people wish to extend an arm of kindness to help you look after yourself, your eyes and dislocated shoulder and neck, do you have an account No that people can send money to?

Mr H: Henry gave his bank details. He reiterated, “There was never a time I planned to kill Dr Olukoya or to rob him, I was implicated in this matter. After we have suffered for 9 years for a crime we never committed, the court has vindicated me that I am not a murderer, and not a robber. The court has discharged and acquitted me.

YG TV: This show is not to witch-hunt anyone, what we stand for is justice, to share life bitter experiences of some people, to speak out so they can get justice for their safety and the safety of others. From Yorubagidi TV, we would like to appreciate your audience and to thank you for extending a hand of help to those in need. My name remains Olakunle Fasugba.

THE END

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*Acknowledgement: Thank you to the Ebenezer Gabriels Humanitarian Missions and its team of volunteers for localizing this work. Your dedication and effort in making this material accessible to a broader audience are greatly appreciated.*

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