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Ojo, John Olakunle

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Propositions

Charismatic leadership, organisational dynamics and the growth of independent pentecostal churches in Lagos metropolis

John Olakunle Ojo

1. Charisma, which Max Weber described as the ascription of an extraordinary quality in prophet-type leaders, is an important factor in the emergence of founders and pastoral leaders of Independent Pentecostal churches in Lagos and to gather followership. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4).
2. Charismatic leadership is stabilized to some extent with the emergence of routinized organizational systems within Independent Pentecostal churches in Lagos metropolis, which in their earlier years operated informally, on personal relationships and had no fixed administrative routines. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapters 4 and 5).
3. Within 30 years of existence, the Independent Pentecostal churches have experienced growth through increase in membership, more financial income, creating multiple branches, territorial expansion as well as multiple worship services. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapter 6).
4. The growth of Independent Pentecostal Churches in Lagos metropolis is largely due to the manner the founders exercised their charisma in harnessing the commitment of their members, pooling resources for infrastructural development, and the type of administrative structures introduced to cope with religious and social changes. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapters 4 and 5).
5. The setting up of formal organizational and administrative structures has enabled the leaders to cope with the challenges of expansion and growth of their churches and to sustain the commitment of their members. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapter 5).
6. The use of the media and media technology, establishment of social activities, and creation of new programmes and sub-groups are crucial tools for the enlistment and sustenance of the commitment of the members, and to grow these churches. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapter 6).
7. The leaders of IPC's have branded their churches through their leadership styles, innovative programmes, and distinctive practices. These have distinguished one church from the other and enabled these leaders to market their churches. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapters 3 and 5).
8. Leaders of IPC's have limited the routinization effect on the attribution of charisma to their leadership by amplifying their personalities and linking it to the branding of the church, sidetracking the constitution of their church and refusing to put in place succession plans. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapters 5 and 6).
9. The assumption of pastoral leadership positions by the wives of founder-leaders of Independent Pentecostal churches alongside their husbands suggests that charisma can be shared, a possibility Max Weber overlooked. (The PhD thesis, cf. Chapters 4 and 7).