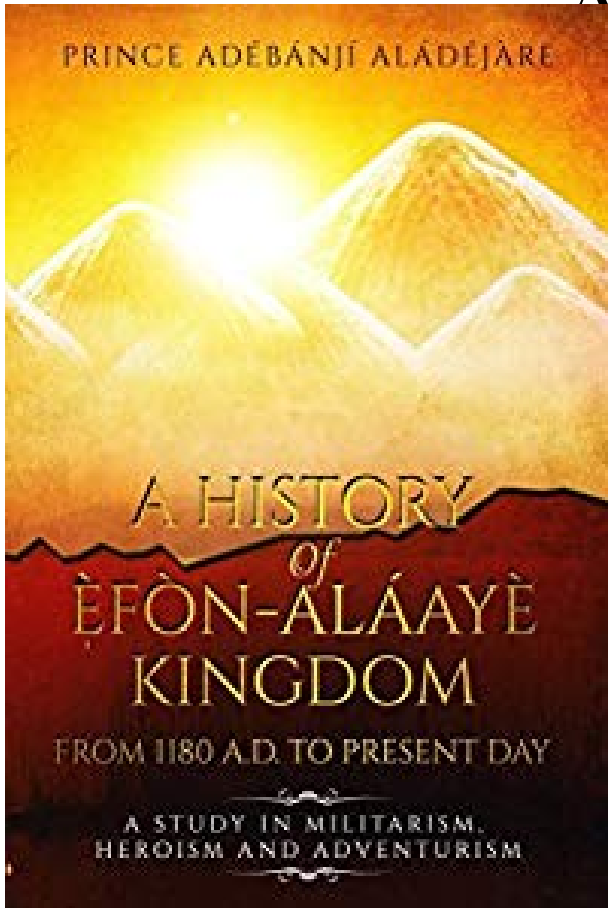


# A History Of Efon-Alaaye Kingdom From 1180 A.D. To Present Day: A Study in Militarism, Heroism and Adventurism



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About 800 A.

D., Odùduwà, the progenitor of the Yorùbá race arrived at ILÈ

'-IFÈ

' – the cradle of the Yorùbá race and civilization and established Ife

dynasty.  
, Òdúdú-Q

runkú, the grandson of Odùduwà was the progenitor of Ayès of Èfòn. It was said that when  
, Odùdù-O

runkú was a little boy,

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ni Obalúfòn Ógbógbódirin was fond of him and he often displays his affection towards him by letting him sit  
on his lap. Consequently, at about 950 A.D., the 2nd

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ni of

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, Obalúfòn Ógbógbódirin carved out a territory named Íràyè, the site of the present town of

, MODÁKẸ

, KẸ

, and made his beloved son, ODÙDÙ

, O

RUNKÚN the overload and the Aláyè of Íràyè. In fact, when Aláyè play host the

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ni of

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, it is a customary practice for the Aláyè to sit on

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ni's lap. Similarly, whenever the

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ni of

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plays host to Aláyè – the Aláyè is not made to follow protocol at the palace of

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ni of

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, he is given a free rein. The fondness

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Q

ni extended to Aláyè appears to be a re-enactment of the past when the Aláyè was treated as a favorite child of

Q

Q

ni ÒGBÓGBÓDIRIN. However, at about 1040 A.D., the AYÈS left Íràyè in search of larger territory and finally about 1180 A.D.,

ÌJÌ-È

MÍGÚN led the AYÈS out of ÌGBÓLÉ-AYÈ and founded

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FÒN-ALÁAYÈ Kingdom. According to

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fòn Tradition, the Kingdom had 12 sub-towns under the dominion of the Aláyè of Èfòn. Moreover, before the advent of the British administration, there was no dichotomy (difference) between administrative and judicial functions in Èfòn. Both functions were rolled together. There was nothing like the separation of power, as we know it today where there are dichotomies between Legislative, the Executive and the Judiciary. The Traditional Council OF

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fòn performed both functions (Judicial and administration) at the same time and place. The OLÓRÍ-ÈBÍ or a few elders who happened to be present settled trivial matters in the family usually. More serious cases were referred either to the High Chiefs of the Quarters. In most cases, civil matters were settled out of court by arbitration. The word

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fòn-Aláayè was synonymous with warmongering, gallantry, heroism and fortitude especially in the 19th century during the fratricidal or internecine wars that engulfed the whole of Yorùbáland.

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fòn was famous in Èkìtì and beyond as fierce and warlike. To be precise,

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fòn was a militarist society in the days gone-by.

Before one can be conferred with a chieftaincy title in the days of old, as a rule, he must have displayed an extraordinary bravery, heroism and fortitude in battles. Consequently, within a period of 84 years, from 1797 to 1879, Èfòn went to war about 14 times and produced Great War Generals that could hold their own among any contemporary Generals in those days.