

INAUGURATION OF CAN SOUTH AFRICA

On the 24th of June 2016 a Fact finding Mission team comprising of Reverend Emmanuel Bosun, member of the National Christian Elders Forum and Secretary/Coordinator of the CAN Trust Fund, with Bishop Henry Sado, Former National Youth CAN President and member of the National Executive Council of CAN, and Rev. Ogude arrived Johannesburg, South Africa at the instance of His Eminence, Pa Ayo Oritsejafor, the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) President.

A 3-Day workshop was held at the Rehoboth Ministries International Johannesburg CBD, and the delegates the essence of the formation of Christian Association of Nigeria International arm and exhorted the Nigerian Pastors and Christians in South Africa and showed some video clips and presentations to encourage the participants.

On the last day of the workshop, the Christian Association of Nigeria South Africa was born as one of the international arm of the Christian Association of Nigeria. A date was agreed upon for the inauguration of the CAN South Africa.

The President of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), His Eminence, Pa Ayo Oritsejafor arrived late on the night of 12th July 2016 from his inauguration of the Christian Association of Nigeria Americas (CANAN) in United States to South Africa to a heralded welcome by the Nigerian Pastors and Christian Leaders in South Africa.

With little or no rest from his arrival the previous night, he officiated during a special church service held the following day the 13th of July 2016 for the inauguration of the Christian Association of Nigeria South Africa at the Rehoboth Ministries International Johannesburg CBD.

During his sermon, the President of Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), His Eminence Pa Ayo Oritsejafor, called on the South African chapter, CAN South Africa, to work for the unity of the church. He said as Christians, members should love one another and obey God's commandments. The president also urged them to avoid evil in all endeavors. As Christians, we must avoid evil. The church is facing a battle and it demands that we should be the one to overcome the challenges. When evil is mentioned, we should not be counted. Please do not allow sin to build on sin. "We must always speak with one voice always", he said. Pa Ayo urged Nigerians resident in South Africa to obey the laws of the country they are resident in. When you break the law, you have committed an offence. You must understand that you are Nigerians. You must be proud of your country and obey the laws of South Africa, he said.

He also urged members to be wary of some people who claim to be men of God because many Christians had caused confusion for the church. I want to see the oneness of our churches. We must come together and work as one. We should put our doctrines aside and ensure that the association succeeds in its assignments, he said.

The inaugurated chairman of CAN South Africa from the CPFN/PFN Bloc, Archbishop Barrister Benson Uwaha, said the new executive would work as one to build on the successes recorded by the national body.

Hon. Ikechukwu Anyene, President of the Nigeria Union in South Africa, urged all religions to work for the unity and development of the country. Hon. Anyene, who presented a souvenir to Pa Ayo Oritsejafor, said the Nigerian community in South Africa would remain law abiding and work for the welfare of its members.

The Nigerian Consular General, Ambassador Uche Ajulu-Okeke with the Nigerian Consulate delegates later took Pa Ayo and his team in a Diplomatic convoy to the OR Tambo Airport that night for departure back to Nigeria.