

**FOREVER
IN OUR
HEARTS**



PASTOR (DR.) YETADE OLABISI AKERE

February 15, 1968 - February 9, 2025



One Year Remembrance | Saturday, February 28, 2026

One Year Remembrance Service

1. Opening prayer

2. Praise & Worship

3. Bible reading - 3 John 1:2 and Romans 12:2

4. Hymn 1

Because He Lives

God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!


Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy he brings;
But greater still the calm assurance:
This child can face uncertain days because He Lives!

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

And then one day, I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives!

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

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5. Remembering Dr. Tade Akere Video

6. Tributes

7. Pastor Bayo and Yemi Adewole Tribute Video

8. Hymn 2

Higher Ground

I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining every day;
Still praying as I onward bound,
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

Refrain:

Lord, lift me up, and let me stand
By faith on Canaan's tableland;
A higher plane than I have found,
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.

My heart has no desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;
Though some may dwell where these abound,
My prayer, my aim, is higher ground.

(Refrain)

I want to live above the world,
Though Satan's darts at me are hurled;
For faith has caught the joyful sound,
The song of saints on higher ground.


(Refrain)

I want to scale the utmost height
And catch a gleam of glory bright;
But still I'll pray till rest I've found,
"Lord, lead me on to higher ground."

(Refrain)

9. Words of Exhortation - Pastor Wale Akinosun

10. Prayers for the family

Forever 
in our hearts



A BEAUTIFUL SOUL IS
NEVER FORGOTTEN,
JUST REMEMBERED
WITH GREAT LOVE

Biography

Yetade Olabisi Itunnu was born to Micheal Babatunde and Iyabode Olakunbi Durodola on February 15th, 1968. She was their 1st surviving child, as they lost the sons they had before and after her. As a result, she was doted on and fiercely protected.

Tade started her primary school in home science in Ikoyi. She then went on to Corona School on Victoria Island. After completing her primary education, she left for Federal Government Girls' College (FGGC) Ilaro, which later became FGGC Sagamu. She was a member of the pioneering set. She got the nickname SisTade there, as her sisters Tolu and Tosin went to the same school. They didn't like the idea of calling her senior Tade in school and sister at home, and some of their friends adopted the name. She later gained admission into LASU and graduated with a bachelor's degree in English.

She met Ayo, her husband, at NYSC camp during youth service, and they have never been separated since then. She went on to serve in the United Bank of Africa, Apapa branch, Lagos, Nigeria. Their relationship grew as Ayo lived and worked in Apapa. They encountered and joined the Apapa Parish of the Redeemed Christian Church of God at Roxy in Apapa, Lagos, Nigeria where they first met Pastor Bayo Adewole in 1991. After youth service, she worked for Chartered Bank's head office in Lagos before leaving for the United States.

In 1993, she relocated to the United States to join Ayo, who she had been traditionally married to since 1992. They started out in New York where she worked for a clothing company and started a brief career in modeling. They moved to Chicago because they have family in Chicago. She got back into her banking career here in Chicago with some part time modeling. She worked for Citibank, Beverly Bank, etc. She obtained a master's degree in business studies. She developed deep roots here, friendships, partnerships, and strong connections, especially with the church family. Everywhere Tade worked or schooled, she was committed, kept in touch with friends and remained an active member of their alumni.

Tade, in a bid to understand her autistic son's condition, went back to further her education.

She got a second master's degree and a doctorate in psychology and mental health. She authored a book, "No, Not My Son," on the care and path to better care of special needs children. As their advisor, she also helps parents cope better with their special needs children.

Her Talk Show, Dr Tade Talks, is the first of its kind, where she tackles pertinent issues relating to unpopular topics, especially in Minorities where autism, ADHD and other mental illnesses are not spoken about.

She has received several awards in the US and Nigeria, most recently being named "Woman of the Year 2024" by the Miss Diaspora Pageant, Chicago.

She was ordained as an Assistant Pastor of the RCCG and was head of the women's ministry of Jesus House Chicago until December 2024.

She was loving wife to her husband and a dedicated mother to her sons - Deji, Yinka and Kitan. She has also been a second mum to her siblings for decades, and a pillar of support to her extended family. She will be sorely missed.





ONE YEAR WITHOUT TADE

It has been one year since my beloved Tade slipped quietly into eternity, and not a day passes that I don't feel that she is coming back home. There are moments so full of her memory that I can hardly breathe through them, and others where the silence in our home and in my soul is so loud, I almost expect her to call my name and remind me to rest "You are going to EVA MAE tomorrow, to come and see what Cheryl is wearing today, or to pray about an issue. It's in the quiet hours of the night that I miss her most.

Her warmth beside me. Her steady breathing. The whispered prayers before sleep. The unspoken understanding between us even in silence. Now the bed feels too large, the nights long, Saturday nights are the longest. I still reach out for her sometimes, only to find the cold space where she once laid. The comfort of her presence was a covering—one I feel naked without.

Tade had a way of seeing clearly through the fog. She wasn't quiet, but her wisdom was powerful. Whether it was a family matter, a business dilemma, or even what color to paint the living room walls, I always asked her. She had insight rooted in faith, logic, and love. I find myself hesitating more often now—wondering "What would Tade say?" before I act. I still hear her voice in my head, but oh how I wish it came from across the room instead.

At the clinic, her absence is glaring. As Director of Administration, she brought structure, grace, and warmth that made both staff and patients feel at ease. Her chair sits empty, but it still carries her essence. The systems she built runs on, but the soul behind them is gone. I gave up the practice on the North side as "my ignition" is missing. Tade is truly the LIFE of my life.

At home, I see her in the children's eyes. Deji has her thoughtfulness, Yinka carries her quiet strength, and Kitan—her spark. She poured herself into them. She was their guide, their defender, their teacher. She showed them how to live with dignity and how to love with sacrifice. Watching them now reminds me of her more than ever. She would be so proud.

She was my partner in every way. We built dreams together, bore burdens side by side, and found joy in the smallest things—from cooking together on Sundays to praying for each other when the days were long. Her companionship was a blessing I never took for granted. Without her, life has required a strength I didn't know I have OR I needed. Yet, I draw from the well she helped dig— deep faith, deep love, deep resolve.

Though I miss her with every fiber of my being, I take comfort in knowing she is in a place of glory. A place where there is no pain, no tears, no night. A place prepared by the One she served so faithfully. Tade lived for God, and now she rests with Him. That truth steadies me when the grief threatens to overwhelm.

One year has gone by, but my love for Tade has not dimmed—it has deepened, matured, and now carries the fragrance of longing. I miss her laugh, her touch, her rebuke, her prayers, her joy. I miss her. But I press on, honoring her legacy In the way I love our children, in the work and foundation she started (Dr. Tade Talks and BIRC now The Dr Tade Akere Foundation for Mental health and Special needs).

In the life I still have left to live.

Tade, you are not forgotten. You are forever missed. Forever cherished. Forever loved.

*Your Sweetheart,
Ayoade*

DEAREST MOM

It has been one year.

One year since that afternoon when everything changed. One year since the world felt like it stopped breathing. One year since you left for heaven, hmmm, mom — my anchor, my covering, my safest place.

Mom, you were the voice that calmed my fears. The steady presence that made everything feel possible. You had this strength about you — not loud, — but firm, wise, immovable. You carried our family with grace. You carried Dad. You carried Deji. You carried Yinka. And somehow, you always carried me.

As the youngest, I think I leaned on you more than I realized.

I miss the simple things the most. I miss hearing you move around the house in the morning.

I miss the way you would check in on me — “Are you okay, Kitan?” — even when I didn’t say I wasn’t.

I miss you trying to hug me — your hugs, the kind that made everything feel steady again.

There are nights when I still want to call you. When something good happens. When something confusing happens. When I just want advice. You were my sounding board. My counselor. My prayer warrior. My comfort.

And I didn’t know how much I depended on that.

Mom, you weren’t just “Dad’s wife” or “Director of Administration” or “Dr. Tade.” To the world, you were accomplished. A leader. A mentor. A woman who went back to school and earned a doctorate in psychology because you loved Yinka so deeply that you wanted to understand his world better. A minister of the gospel who poured into young adults with wisdom and patience.

But to me, you were simply Mommy.

You knew how to read my face before I spoke. You knew when I was pretending to be strong. You knew when I needed encouragement and when I needed correction. You protected me — not from responsibility — but from losing confidence in myself.

This year without you,

I’ve had to grow up in ways I didn’t choose. I’ve had to learn how to make decisions without asking, “Mom, what do you think?” I’ve had to watch Dad carry so much without his best friend beside him. I’ve had to see Deji step up in strength. I’ve had to see Yinka navigate life without the advocate who understood him better than anyone.

But even in the pain, I see your fingerprints everywhere.

In the way Dad still leads with integrity.

In the way our home still feels anchored in faith.

In the way we pray.

In the way we love each other harder now.

I miss you, I miss you, I miss you. Thank God for dad, he's doing his best.

You lived what you preached. You believed what you taught. And I know you are in the presence of the God you served so faithfully. That thought steadies me when my heart feels unsteady.

I carry you with me — in my decisions, in my prayers, in the way I want to love people well. I carry your voice in my head. I carry your standards in my heart.

I don't know if missing you will ever feel lighter. But I know loving you will always feel like a gift.

Thank you for 23 years of being my mother.

Thank you for choosing us every day.

Thank you for showing me what faith looks like in real life.

One year later, I still cry.

I still miss you.

I still need you.

But I am standing.

Because you taught me how.

I love you forever, Mommy.

— Kitan



— DR.
TADE
TALKS



REBRANDING OF DR. TADE TALKS



Mental Health and Special Needs advocacy and education were a passion for Dr. Tade Akere. She had a God given mission to combat misconceptions and myths regarding special needs and mental health which led her to create the Dr. Tade Talks show.

She was dedicated to using her faith, wisdom, knowledge, and experiences to inform her community and others. She provided resources, factual information, and gave hope to those dealing with challenges, their parents and caregivers within the African Diaspora community and beyond with authentic love and passion.

We kindly ask each of you present today to join us to continue her legacy.

Be a part of Dr. Tade Talks by watching future episodes, sharing and discussing with your community, and taking a personal pledge to love and respect all of God's children no matter their abilities.

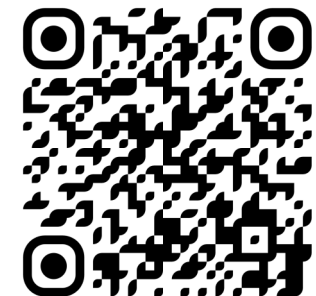
Subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/@drtadetalks> today.

Don't forget to comment and leave suggestions, questions, and general thoughts.

Now under the Dr. Tade Akere Foundation for Mental Health and Special Needs, her work for education and advocacy lives on through Dr. Tade Talks.

Together we can change the perception of mental health and special needs in our communities.

Our hosts will help to continue to raise awareness for mental health and special needs on the Dr. Tade Talks YouTube Channel. They will address various topics to help educate our global communities and foster honest dialogue.



Meet Our Hosts

Anthonia Alabi is a seasoned Administrator and Lead Consultant at Promoworld Educational Consult, and Co-Founder of Coat of Many Colours Africa, where she advocates for children and young people facing challenging conditions or disabilities. She is also a mentor and author of three children's storybooks. Passionate about education, environmental advocacy, and sharing the Gospel, Anthonia writes for The Beacon International Magazine and is dedicated to creating lasting impact through the envisioned CoMC-Inspire Training Centre.



Dr. Olayemi Champion Odusola is board-certified physician in Family Medicine and Obesity Medicine. She is passionate about the arts and is the creator, writer, and producer of the Daily Motion drama series on Amazon. She is the host of the talk series Haven of Love. She is an inspirational speaker and is actively engaged in mental health and women's health development seminars in her community.

Ngozi Eboru is a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP), dedicated to providing quality, empathetic and safe patient care. Her passion lies in advocating for her patients and breaking the stigma surrounding mental health in diverse communities. This has given her a platform, particularly within faith-based communities to teach on mental health, promote wellness, and advocate for individuals and families navigating mental health challenges.



Meet Our Hosts

Tosin Sanjo-Shodimu a Lawyer, is the Managing Solicitor at Adiel Solicitors. As a parent to an autistic teenager, her personal journey into autism has reshaped not only her family life, but also her purpose and voice. Her experience with her son has taught her to appreciate the different mindset and celebrate the individuality, strengths, and unique brilliance of autistic children.



Dionne C. Ibekie, MD is a Board Certified Anesthesiologist medical educator, and digital content creator who focuses on patient advocacy and medical literacy. She is the co-host of The IVY Drip, a podcast that discusses surgical preparation, medical trends, and patient advocacy. Dr. Ibekie is a wife and mother of three, including a gifted son with high-functioning ASD. She is committed to learning about autism spectrum disorder and being an advocate for her child, particularly considering the unique challenges faced by African American families. This personal experience gives her a deep understanding of the obstacles many parents encounter in ensuring their children thrive in school and beyond.



DR. TADE AKERE
FOUNDATION

FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SPECIAL NEEDS



Dr. Take Akere Foundation for Mental Health and Special Needs



Through the Dr. Tade Akere Foundation for Mental Health and Special Needs, her passion and legacy continue.

Mission:

The mission of the Foundation is to correct myths, and misconceptions while destigmatizing mental health and improving the care of people with special needs.

Vision:

We aim to foster a global community where individuals with mental health and special needs diagnoses can belong and reach their full potential, ultimately thriving.

Objectives:

The foundation aims to accomplish its mission and vision through advocacy, and providing scholarships for students who are working to become professionals in the mental health and special education fields. The foundation also plans to provide resources and assistance to individuals with mental health and special needs diagnoses and their caregivers. To meet these objectives and future objectives collaborations and partnerships with other organizations and foundations will be established.

Dr. Tade Akere Foundation consists of six board members who will oversee and help to meet its objectives.

Meet the Board Members

Chairperson

Dr. Chinwe Ogedegbe MD, MPH, MBA is a physician-scientist, Professor of Emergency Medicine, and clinical trials leader with over 25 years of clinical practice and more than 15 years of research experience. She earned her MD from Obafemi Awolowo University, completed residency at Mount Sinai Hospital, and holds an MPH from Columbia University along with an MBA. She serves as CEO of Intelligent Clinical Trials Solutions (iCTS) Holdings Inc. and Chief Medical Officer at VitalFlo Health. She brings strategic leadership, clinical and research expertise, governance insight, and a strong commitment to mentorship and workforce development to the board.



Secretary

Boluwatife Omotoba holds a BA in Psychology, with a minor in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies, from the University of Chicago. She serves as a care coordinator at a home healthcare agency and volunteers as a research assistant at her alma mater. She brings a strong perspective on patient advocacy, mental health equity, and program development to her role as Secretary of the Board. An aspiring clinical psychologist, she is committed to service, accountability, and advancing the foundation's mission.



Meet the Board Members

Ayodeji Akere is the son of the late Dr. Tade Akere. Inspired by his mother's legacy and his brother Yinka, who is on the autism spectrum, he is deeply committed to promoting awareness, inclusion, and comprehensive support for individuals with mental health conditions and special needs and their families. He has a degree in Biology with a background in global health and professional experience in business development. He brings expertise in strategic planning, partnership development, and advocacy, strengthening the foundation's impact and long-term sustainability.



Babatunde Irukera is a seasoned legal and regulatory expert with over 35 years of experience in institutional reform, market regulation, and public interest advocacy in Nigeria and internationally. As former Executive Vice Chairman/CEO of the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission in Nigeria, he led major regulatory reforms and strengthened consumer protection and accountability systems. Admitted to the Bar in both Nigeria and the United States, and a trusted adviser to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), he brings strategic governance, compliance expertise, and policy leadership to support sustainable partnerships and ethical impact across Africa.

Meet the Board Members

Olumide Owolabi is an accomplished investment professional with over twenty-three years of experience in quantitative finance and fixed-income management. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from the University of Ilorin and a Master's degree in Financial Mathematics from the University of Chicago. He brings disciplined leadership, strong financial oversight, and prudent risk management to his role as a board member along with a passion for mentoring and youth empowerment.



Ekene Okafor is a Corporate Finance and Accounting professional based in Chicago with over 15 years of experience in financial management, strategic planning, and fiscal oversight. As an active member of Jesus House Chicago and a teacher in the church's teenage department, he also leads the planning, coordination, and fundraising efforts for their annual scholarship program, which supports graduating seniors in their transition to college. He will bring strong financial stewardship and proven experience in scholarship and youth program development to advance the mission, sustainability, and impact of the Foundation.

Dr. Tade Akere Scholarship for Students of Mental Health and Special Education

Today we officially launched the Dr. Tade Akere Scholarship for students of Mental Health and Special Education.

Scholarships will open in January of every year and close in May. Recipients will be announced in the summer of each year for the upcoming fall semester.

Scholarships will be awarded based on annual donations to the foundation and funds provided by the Akere family.

Applicants: Dr. Tade Akere Foundation Scholarships are open to students currently enrolled in majors associated with mental health and/or in special education majors at the undergraduate or graduate levels.

Requirements:

All applicants are required to submit an essay on the following questions,

1. What inspired you to pursue an interest in the field of mental health and/or special education?
2. After graduation, how do you intend to contribute to destigmatizing mental health and special needs and shaping global perceptions?

Essays must be double-spaced using no more than 1,200 words.

Deadline: The 2026 essays are due by Sunday May 31, 2026 at midnight.

Submissions: Please submit all essays on drta-detalks.com or drtadeakere.org

Special Education Classrooms: One of the objectives of the Dr. Tade Akere Foundation for Mental Health and Special Needs is to provide respite to parents and caregivers of special needs children. This will be accomplished by creating and equipping special education classrooms which will be located in various churches. Our first church will be Jesus House Chicago the home church of Dr. Tade Akere and where she was a pastor.

Resources and Partnerships

The foundation will also partner with other organizations & foundations to provide resources for individuals diagnosed with mental health and special needs and their parents and caregivers.

Donations:

Join us in helping to encourage more mental health and special education professionals and to continue the legacy of Dr. Tade Akere. You can make a donation by visiting www.drtadetalks.com or www.drtadeakere.org

Thank you all for your love and support towards the Akere family and the work being done in honor of Dr. Tade Akere.



www.drtadetalks.com



www.drtadeakere.org

**IN THE PATH
YOU'VE WALKED,
YOU'VE LEFT A
PERMANENT
TRACE OF LOVE.**



Appreciation

Over the past year, we have been deeply touched by the incredible love, compassion, and unwavering support shown to our family. Your prayers, comforting words, and presence have strengthened us in ways we cannot fully describe.

We are sincerely grateful for your generosity and the many thoughtful acts of kindness extended to us. Each message, visit, and prayer has brought comfort, peace, and renewed hope during this journey.

Although words feel inadequate to truly express our appreciation, please know that every gesture, no matter how small has meant more to us than we can say.

Thank you for standing with us and for joining in honoring the beautiful life of our dearly beloved.

May God abundantly bless you and your loved ones.



THOSE WHO TOUCH OUR LIVES, STAY IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER