AMADEDON ORITSE-TSEYE PRECIOUS

**PHARMACY**

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**TRIBALISM AND NEPOTISM**

Nepotism and tribalism are two major problems at large in our society and nation.

**Nepotism** is the practice among those with power or influence of favoring relatives or friends, especially by giving them jobs. **Tribalism** is the state or fact of being organized in a tribe or tribes.

Prior to the independence of our country, those who ruled us did not care or emphasized on what tribe or section of community we came from. As soon as the country gained its independence, the whole system started changing. Jobs were given to people who came from one particular region or a particular tribe. As a result of this, other parts of the country started rebelling against the post-independence marginalization of its post-independence. The rebellion was as a result of tribalism, sectionalism and nepotism. These are the causes of many problems nationwide or in the country.

Due to the massive increase of poverty or penury, people may choose to put their close relatives in major key positions rather than the better certified or qualified people. Due to prejudicial or unjust nepotism, many young men and women or youths who have better certificates and degrees than others are turned away while people who have relatives responsible for employment are taken in and employed. In our public institutions, tribalism and nepotism are obviously becoming more widespread. The Principals or bosses would prefer to have supporting staffs come from their own tribe. If such practice is not eliminated in the society, it will surely lead to more practice of nepotism.

Nepotism and tribalism can also be seen in our national government. Most people in higher positions are from the same tribe. This act increases the hatred and tribalism for that particular tribe. An elite person is generally believed to be a peacemaker, but this belief turns out to be false, then hope for reconciliation and peace becomes remote.

People from other tribes need to recognize that every tribe reflects major dissimilarity between one another. For instance, in Southern Sudan, the Dinka people scar their faces with three parallel lines across the forehead in a rugged display of courage to the tribe. These is to differentiate them from the Nuer tribe. One of the problems brought by these face markings occurs during rioting between ethnic groups. People who join the fight will just have to look at the faces to know the tribes involved in the fight and on whose side, they are on, whether is the Dinka or the Nuer.

In closing, tribalism and nepotism are major poisonous diseases that all leaders should acknowledge to develop the society and nation and to promote peace and order. For tribalism and nepotism are not building the nation but destroying it.