

ORILE-EDE MI

A vibrant tapestry of green and white.
Territory of our greatest heroes,
Olodumare's Promised Land.
Haven to diverse cultures,
WA ZO BIA.
There was a country.

When did the labor of our heroes past become in vain?
Men whose blood pillared the country.
Are we still bound by freedom, peace, and unity,
Or by the fear of our oppressors,
Ignoring the dictates of the pledge?
As we watch the supposed government
For the people turn against the people –
There was a country.

“God bless Nigeria”, we say.
Heaven to the powerful and hell to the destitute.
A 63-year-old sun in its twilight era,
Dragging its future into the darkness with it.
Evidenced by the 20-10-20 massacre
Lingering in our memories,
There was a country.
Once the giant of Africa.

NB: The colors represent the Nigerian Flag. “There was a country” is from Chinua Achebe’s memoir, therefore it is significant.

ADEOLA SH.