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Course: Introduction to Nigerian Literature.

Should Humanity Avenge for Divinity, Discuss In Chinua Achebe's Dead Men's Path and Reuben Onyishi's Clash of Divinity.

For a better understanding of the above question, the best question should be: why should humanity not avenge Divinity...the answer to this question would be given below

According to Wikipedia, Divinity is the state of things that come from a supernatural power or deity such as God, supreme being, creator, deity or spirits. This is to say that divinity is regarded as sacred. Humanity on the other hand means mankind. Generally divinity should avenge for humanity because it is "their job" but at times humanity become so impatient and stubborn that they would not allow divinity (the gods) to do their job.

It is absurd for humanity to avenge for divinity. To prove my claim, I would use two texts recommended for this course, the Dead men's path and the clash of divinity. The novel clash of divinity is a clear indication that vengeance was never meant for humans but only the supreme beings (the gods). Ozo Eilie Ezeja, a member of cult nine gave an advice not only to the villagers but also to the readers generally, this happened when he said

"wait wait wait, women have already seen.

But it is not our duty to avenge for themselves"

Even the gods agrees that vengeance be left for them.

Again in Chinua Achebe's Dead Men's Path, instead of letting the gods revenge, the people of Ndume resorted to destruction which was never the best solution. The chief priest was only a servant and not the "god" itself, the people of Ndume too were just pencils in the hands of their "god" (divinity), they indirectly belittled their gods by demolishing the school making it look like the gods were ordinary objects that could do nothing but watch them take its own revenge. To the gods, the school and its construction might not be a sacrilege, that was probably why they kept mute. The people of Ndume and their younger generations to come would have benefited much from the school if they had not avenged for divinity.

In conclusion, humanity should not avenge for divinity because divinity is supreme and knows the right time to avenge for itself. Humanity (people) should learn to be patient and obedient to divinity (supreme beings) to avoid destruction, mistakes, curse and disaster.