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**INTRODUCTION TO NIGERIAN
LITERATURE (ELS 102)**

1) Should humanity avenge divinity? Discuss using Chinua Achebe's *Dead men's path* and Reuben Onyishi's *Clash of divinity*.

Humanity cannot avenge divinity because all power belongs to the supernatural and only the supernatural can control the physical/ humans.

DIVINITY: Means the property of being divine, of being like a god or God. It is also a deity, a god, goddess or the study of religion or religions.

HUMANITY: Means mankind, human beings as a group. It also means the human condition or nature or the quality of being benevolent.

AVENGE: Means a vengeance; a revenge; To vindicate by inflicting pain or evil on a wrong doer or to treat vengefully, to

wreak vengeance. To exact satisfaction for by punishing the injuring party.

IN DEAD MEN'S PATH BY CHINUA ACHEBE.

The calamity that befell the village of Ani was bad. A young woman died while giving birth because of the fence the young zealous headmaster had put to close the footpath that runs through the school compound. The chief priest gave the headmaster warning but he refused so the chief priest of Ani said "Let the Hawk perch and let the Eagle also perch" were the words of the priest while trying to warn the headmaster off his deeds but stubborn and two days later a young woman in the village died during child birth, only for the young man/ headmaster to wake up the next morning and the edges were torn near the path around the school and a bad report was written about the premises of the school. Humans are supposed to have respect for supreme beings that is the supernatural has more powers over humans. Humanity has no right to avenge divinity because all wisdom and knowledge belongs to them and they control things.

CLASH OF DIVINITY BY REUBEN ONYISHI.

Humanity in no way should be involved in avenging for divinity, divinity should fight for itself, if it so has the power to do so. In the case of the Imobi youth that took the fight of the Omoba spirit as

their fight in the case of Asogwa, Oyiugwa, Alias, Seventeen-seventeen, who was beaten to death by a mob at the market for stealing a woman's breast with his charms. Also Ogbuagboli Alphonsu who was killed tipper drivers for challenging them when they were stealing gravel. Nwalugwu Paulinus was among the people that took the fight of divinity into human affairs by beating Reverend Dinma and kidnapping his wife, and setting the house of his assemblies Divine for his preaching of faith church which led to the women of the church to see the nakedness of Omaba on the day of his return to the spirit land and also holding a church service on that day which they believed was an abomination. Those in the house of trinity suffered ill fate and mysterious visited them for interfering with the fight of gods. Gods are meant to run their own affairs and mete out justice to suit them, if they are so vindictive they should be allowed to fight their course in the best of ability and not mere mortals to take up their fight.

The African belief system that has been existing even before westerners and many still exist in this modern times. Divinity and divine beings are believed to be supreme and has control over man and his affairs. Humanity can never avenged Divinity because all power belong to the supernatural and only the supernatural can control the physical/ humanity.

