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**DEPARTMENT: COMBINED ARTS (TFS/ELS)**

**TOPIC: SHOULD HUMANITY AVENGE FOR DIVINITY USING  
DEAD MAN'S PATH BY CHINUA ACHEBE AND CLASH OF  
DIVINITY BY REUBEN ONYISHI**

Divinity is any supernatural being worshipped as controlling some part of the world or the formal study of religious practices, and religious belief. Human are not meant to avenge because vengeance belongs to the gods. Dead Man's path centers on Michael Obi who was made the new headmaster in a secondary school in the village of Ndume. The new headmaster Michael obi puts in his whole life into work by trying to modernize the backwardness of the school. In doing so, he crossed the line when he blocked off a spiritual pathway crossing from the graveyard to the village intersecting the school. Obi's modern character the and values stand in contrast to the tribal character and traditional values where he has been sent to serve as schoolmaster. The priest warns that if Obi blocks the path, then he will cut "the path

of children coming in to be born". Obi ridicules the elder, informing him that the purpose of the school is to eradicate such beliefs and to "teach our children to laugh at such ideas". The village priest warns Obi "this path was here before you were born and before your father was born. The whole life of this village depends on it". Michael says that "the whole purpose of our school is to eradicate just such beliefs as that." It was as a result of the road which Obi blocked that made him face the wrath of the gods, the beautiful hedges torn up and the flowers trampled to death and one of the buildings pulled down. The supervisor came to inspect the school and gave a nasty report on the school and premises and most especially the tribal-war-situation developing between the school and the village which was caused by Obi.

In Clash of Divinity, Seventeen-Seventeen and his group were punished by the God Dinma worshipped because they did not allow the god (Omaba) to avenge for it as they arrived at the church while Dinma was preaching. They lifted him up and dashed him on alter. The mob beat Reverend Dinma and his wife to stupor and later raped the wife. They locked them inside the church with

their hands tide and set the house ablaze but they were saved by Michael.

Reverend Dinma did not avenge for what Seventeen-Seventeen did to him and the wife because he believed that vengeance is the lord. Seventeen-Seventeen and his group died a mysterious death as the God which Dinma serves avenges for himself.