

**A TRIBUTE TO COMMEMORATE A DECADE
SINCE THE DEATH OF MRS. VIOLET JOSEPHINE METTA ADJAI ROBERTS
AT A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE, THANKSGIVING AND HOLY COMMUNION
ON SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER, 2019
AT BERMONDSEY CENTRAL HALL METHODIST CHURCH
SOUTH LONDON MISSION
256 BERMONDSEY STREET, LONDON SE1 3UJ BY
LAWRENCE DEROSIMI CHAPMAN**

A tribute to commemorate a decade since Mrs. Violet Josephine Metta Adjaie Roberts transitioned from mortality to immortality; impermanence to permanence.

1st December, I trust, by no coincidence is a significant date in the lives of both the Roberts family and mine too!

Today is 1st December 2019. It symbolizes the 10th year since the passing of mama Roberts, as some knew her, others fondly, including myself, as mama Adjaie.

On 1st December, 2009, she was finally summoned by Almighty God to the highest service, immeasurable delight and indescribable presence of her Creator.

The 1st of December, 1981, saw the devastating and irreplaceable loss; incredulous pain and misery my family suffered, when our home in Freetown, Sierra Leone was engulfed in a mid-morning inferno, which obliterated everything in its wake and path. Our home was no more than rubble and ash, by the time Omotayo in his selfless spirit, whisked me off from my day's activities to their home a short distance from a place I once knew as our family's home.

Mama Adjaie was one of nine siblings, born on the 19th November, 1916 to Sybilla and Sylvanus Bultman of Charlotte Village in Freetown, Sierra Leone. Life wasn't the easiest for her growing up, even as a young lady, married and in her endeavour to bring up her children – those days and nights were rough and tough for her.

Her parents, Sybilla and Sylvanus were respectively seamstress and gardener. At an early age growing up within the confines of her parents' home, her enterprising nature developed rapidly. Baby clothes, pillow cases, petit coats (known in our local parlance – krio, as sheme; various types of vegetables, had to be sold to generate income for her family. Songo Village and her local bus station were two regular areas she would ply and sell her wares in support of her parents' will be to financially buoyant and solvent. It was an uphill task for her. Yet, in solitude she bore it with stoic fortitude, in gratitude; gracefully and admirably.

Her sense of responsibility, respectability, reliability, diligence, intelligence, positive pride all shone brightly when as a mother of eight children – 7 boys and a girl, she worked assiduously and relentlessly to educate and provide for them. Her indomitable will; commitment to succeed resulted in the remarkable accomplishments of all her children – all highly and visibly placed in our Sierra Leone diasporan communities overseas, as well as at home in Sierra Leone. What a living testament to an indefatigable lady of amazing skill; many years of experience, fascinating vision superior confidence and exemplary self-worth. Mrs. Violet Roberts loved the Lord. She was God-fearing, prayerful, faithful, greatly devoted to God's word and mission. She was a doyen of church service and organisations within it. Her forte was supporting the church and its institutions in different capacities. As member of Truscott W A M Church, her role as Church

*(Sung by the
Congregants)*

*When we all get to Heaven
What a day of rejoicing that would be,
When we all see Jesus
We'll sing and shout the Victory!*

Unto such delightful and mesmerizing end, may the worthy soul of Violet Josephine Metta Adjaie and souls of those we also commemorate today; all who have sojourned to the Great Beyond, continue in ataraxy, until the Glorious Resurrection and reunification of all who die in the Lord, subsequently as Saints, to live and reign on our Creator's "Pleasant Courts Above" and within His magnificent and awesome mansions – everlastingly. Amen