

W. F. Bynum (ed.) and Helen Bynum (ed.), Dictionary Of Medical Biography [Five Volumes, cost \$749.95] (Greenwood Publishing Group, December 2006):1616 pages. Patton wrote the four pieces below:

<http://www.greenwood.com/catalog/GR2877.aspx>

(New England Journal of Medicine, 357:11, September 13, 2007:1166; this article is mentioned in the review of DMB.)

Odeku, Emanuel Latude (B. Awe, Nigeria, 29 June 1927;d. London, England, 20 August 1974) Medicine, Neurosurgery

Odeku was born at the family compound of Adu-bi-Eiye in Awe, Nigeria. He began his education in Lagos in 1932 and later graduated from the Methodist Boys' High School (MBHS) in 1945. Odeku's 'Baptist background might have stimulated his interest in America, as the American Baptist has contributed significantly to the development of education and medical care in Nigeria' (Adeloye:1976,13). Odeku left for the US after 1945 and soon thereafter entered and graduated from Howard University, Washington, D.C., first in his undergraduate class, B.S. degree, Summa Cum Laude, 1950. With a New York Phelps-Stokes Fund Scholarship for medical education, Odeku entered Howard University College of Medicine in 1950, and receiving his M.D. in 1954, where he interned at the Freedmen's Hospital under a special program of the US Public Health Service. From 1954-55, he did postgraduate medical internship in pathology at the University Hospital, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. During this time, Odeku met Dr. Edgar Kahn, Chief of Neurosurgery, and trained in Neurosurgery, and undertook training in this area. Upon completion, Odeku went next to the University of Western Ontario, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Canada, from where he received the Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada (LMCC) (1955). It was afterward this extensive training that he decided to return to Nigeria which was at

that time undergoing the initial political changes symptomatic of decolonization. From 1955-56, Odeku was a medical officer at the Lagos General Hospital.

His forays outside of the African continent were not over however and in 1956 Odeku returned to the University of Michigan as Assistant Resident in General Surgery. In July 1957, he began his neurosurgery residency, serving from 1957-60 as Resident, Junior Clinical Instructor, and Senior Clinical Instructor, undertaking short stints as Senior Resident in Neurosurgery at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, the Veterans Administration Hospital, Ann Arbor, and the Wayne County General Hospital, Eloise, Michigan. In between these services in 1959-60, Odeku was also Research Training Fellow in Experimental Neurosurgery at the Neurosurgery Section at the University of Michigan. Professor Kahn was the major mentor to Odeku and in 1960: 'acclaimed Odeku as the most outstanding resident who passed through this service' (Adeloye:1975,19). Odeku went on to receive a Relm Foundation Special Grant of \$3,400 from Ann Arbor to do postgraduate study in Neuropathology, and in July 1960, he assumed study of neuropathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. He moved next to gain experience in neuro-pediatrics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Odeku returned to the College of Medicine, Howard University. He taught neuroanatomy and neurosurgery in the academic year of 1961-62. In the same period, Odeku passed his examinations for the

Diplomate of the American Board of Neurological Surgery at the Grace New Haven Hospital, Yale University.

Odeku returned to Nigeria in 1962 as it's the pioneering first neurosurgeon. Dr. Adeleye Adeloye (M.D. Neurosurgeon and professor), Odeku' biographer, noted: 'The first difficulty he encountered was the prejudice of his British-trained colleagues who are British trained and did not understand the details of the American residency training programme' (Adeloye:1976,25). In October 1962, Odeku submitted a memorandum for the establishment of a neurosurgical unit in the Department of Surgery, College of Medicine, Ibadan University. He appointed a Consultant Anaesthetist through the Rockefeller Foundation, sought training for a corps of neurosurgical nurses, and had eight beds allocated in the Neurological Ward for male and female patients; and acquired additional instruments. Odeku operated each Thursday, supervised an Outpatient Clinic, and was conducting his own neuroradiology and neuropathology.

In 1965, Edgar Kahn visited Odeku at Ibadan, and they performed surgeries together. As a result of this collaboration Odeku published an article on 'Brain Tumors' in International Surgery (1969). He also went onto publish several other pieces with his mentor Kahn at Michigan. Odeku became widely known as an important within the field of neurosurgery, he published widely and belonged to numerous medical associations. Through time, Odeku's example helped to popularize American medical education among Nigerians.

Odeku died in 1974, of diabetes mellitus at the Hammersmith Hospital, London. He married twice to whites: first (1957), Dr./Mrs

Mary Gilda Marques (M.D., Howard University), daughter Lenora and son Peter, and second (1971): Dr./Mrs. Katherine Jill Adcock Odeku (M.D., Royal Free Hospital Medical School, London), son Alan and daughter Amanda.

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