

Reincarnation “Iroso” in Esan: A Myth or Reality

M. A. Izibili

Department of Philosophy, Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Edo State, Nigeria

KEYWORDS Religion. “Iroso” (Reincarnation). Philosophy. Myth. Reality

ABSTRACT It is the concern of this paper to examine the concept of ‘iroso’, which means reincarnation among the Esan people of southwestern Nigeria. It becomes necessary to x-ray this happening against the background of such selected phenomenon in African traditional worldview that supposedly makes up the content of African philosophy. The paper came to a conclusion that it is not all events or occurrences that could be explained empirically. Hence, reincarnation should be taken as one of the ways Africans promotes family solidarity and unbroken unity and such be accepted as what Echekwube referred to as ‘regeneration’ theory instead of reincarnation.