

KERESIMESİ ODUN DE O

for S.A.B. voices, a cappella
with percussion*

Yoruba Text

Nigerian Christmas Song
Arranged by ANDY BECK

Rhythmically (♩ = ca. 69)

SHAKER SMALL DRUM LOW DRUM

Legal Use Requires Purchase

Background information and Yoruba pronunciation/translation is on page 11.

* Also available for S.S.A. (51437), T.T.B. (51438), and 2-part (51439).

Download free percussion parts at alfred.com/choralparts.

Visit alfred.com for digital scores and audio.

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A musical score for voice and piano. The vocal part is in soprano clef, and the piano part is in bass clef. The key signature is three flats. The vocal line consists of two staves of music, each with lyrics. The piano accompaniment has two staves of rhythmic patterns. The lyrics are: "dun de o, ____ o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo." in the first staff, and "dun de o, ____ o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo." in the second staff. The piano accompaniment consists of eighth-note patterns. A large red diagonal watermark reading "Preview Only Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid across the page.

dun de o, ____ o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo.

dun de o, ____ o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo.

dun de o, ____ o, o - dun i - jo, o - dun a -

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The continuation of the musical score. The vocal part now includes lyrics for the second half of the song: "Ke - re - si - me - si o - dum de o. ____ Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____ yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____". The piano accompaniment continues with its eighth-note patterns. The red watermark remains.

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dum de o. ____

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

12

Optional: measures 12–13, 16–17, 20–21, and 24–25 may be solos

A bi Je - su Kris - ti si - nu a - ye. Ke - re - si - me - si o -
Ke - re - si - me - si o -
Ke - re - si - me - si o -

15

dun de o.
dun de o.
dun de o. O wa s'a - ye fun t'e - mi ti - re.

18

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

20

21

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

ti - si - nu - a - ye. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

24

O wa s'a - ye fun t'e - mi ti - re. Ke - re - si - me - si o -
O wa s'a - ye fun t'e - mi ti - re. Ke - re - si - me - si o -
Ke - re - si - me - si o -

27

28

dun de o. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.
dun de o. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.
dun de o. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

f

ff

ff

ff

30

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o, ____ o - dun i - jo,
Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o, ____ o - dun i - jo,
Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o, ____ o - dun i -

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o - dun a - yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____
o - dun a - yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____
jo, o - dun a - yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o -

42

la I'o - wo e - se. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

la I'o - wo e - se. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

la I'o - wo e - se. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

45

opt. DESCANT (2nd time only)

opt. DESCANT (2nd time only)

f

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o.

f

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. Ke - re - si - me - si o -

f

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. Ke - re - si - me - si o -

f

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. Ke - re - si - me - si o -

f

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. Ke - re - si - me - si o -

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o, ____
o - dun a -
dun de o, ____ o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo.
dun de o, ____ o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo.
dun de o, ____ o, o - dun i - jo, o - dun a -

(rejoin section)

yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____
Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____
Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

2nd time—decresc.

yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

2nd time—decresc.

2nd time—decresc.

2nd time—decresc.

2nd time—decresc.

54

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o!

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o!

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o!

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This joyous Christmas song comes from the Yoruba-speaking regions of Nigeria. The Yoruba are one of the major ethnic groups in Nigeria, and their music often features rich harmonies and lively rhythms. The lyrics of “Keresimesi Odun De O” reflect the festive spirit of the Christmas season and the song is typically performed in a bright rhythmic style, characteristic of traditional Yoruba music.

YORUBA PRONUNCIATION & TRANSLATION

Keresimesi odun de o	<i>keh-reh-see-meh-see oh-doон deh oh</i>	(Christmas is here)
odun ijo, odun ayo	<i>oh-doон ee-joh, oh-doон eye-oh</i>	(church year, joyous year)
A bi Jesu Kristi sinu aye	<i>ah bee jeh-zoo kree-stee see-noо eye-eh</i>	(Jesus Christ was born to the world)
O wa s’aye fun t’emi tire	<i>oh wah sah-yeh foон teh-mee tee-reh</i>	(he came to life for my soul)
Omo Maria, o ku fun wa	<i>oh-moh mah-ree-ah, oh koo foон wah</i>	(son of Mary, he died for us)
Omo Josefу, o ku fun wa	<i>oh-moh joh-seh-foo, oh koo foон wah</i>	(son of Joseph, he died for us)
O wa lati ba wa la I’owo eşe	<i>oh wah lah-tee bah wa lah yoh-woh eh-sheh</i>	(he came to save us from sin)