

KERESIMESI ODUN DE O

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

Yoruba Text

Nigerian Christmas Song
Arranged by **ANDY BECK**

Rhythmically (♩. = ca. 69)

SHAKER

SMALL DRUM

LOW DRUM

3 S. I *mf*

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

S. II *mf*

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

A. *mf*

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

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

* Also available for S.A.B. (51436), T.T.B. (51438), and 2-part (51439).

Download free percussion parts at alfred.com/choralparts.

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6

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 -

9

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

dun de o.

18

20

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. ____ A bi Je su Kris -

21

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

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

ti si - nu a - ye. 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 -

Ke - re - si - me - si o -

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

27

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

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

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

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 o - dun i -

The musical score for measures 30-32 features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in a soprano, alto, and tenor/bass arrangement. The piano accompaniment consists of three staves (treble, middle, and bass clef). The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

33



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 -

The musical score for measures 33-35 continues the vocal and piano parts. The vocal parts have the same arrangement as the previous measures. The piano accompaniment also continues. The key signature and time signature remain the same. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

37

36

p
O - mo Ma - ri - a, o ku fun wa.

p
O, o ku fun wa.

p
dun de o. O, o ku fun wa.

p
p
p

39

cresc. *mf*
O - mo Jo - se - fu, o ku fun wa. O wa la - ti ba wa

cresc. *mf*
O, o ku fun wa. O wa la - ti ba wa

cresc. *mf*
O, o ku fun wa. O wa la - ti ba wa

cresc. *mf*
mf

42

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

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

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

45

opt. DESCANT (2nd time only)

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

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

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

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 -

yo. (rejoin section) 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. ____

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

2nd time—*decrsc.*

2nd time—*decrsc.*

2nd time—*decrsc.*

2nd time—*decrsc.*

54

mp *f*

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

mp *f*

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

f

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

mp *mf* *f*

mp *mf* *f*

mp *mf* *f*

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-doon deh oh</i>	(Christmas is here)
odun ijo, odun aye	<i>oh-doon ee-joh, oh-doon eye-oh</i>	(church year, joyous year)
A bi Jesu Kristi sinu aye	<i>ah bee jeh-zoo kree-stee see-noo eye-eh</i>	(Jesus Christ was born to the world)
O wa s'aye fun t'emi tire	<i>oh wah sah-yeh foon 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 foon wah</i>	(son of Mary, he died for us)
Omo Josefu, o ku fun wa	<i>oh-moh joh-seh-foo, oh koo foon wah</i>	(son of Joseph, he died for us)
O wa lati ba wa la I'owo ese	<i>oh wah lah-tee bah wa lah yoh-woh eh-sheh</i>	(he came to save us from sin)