



# The Holy See

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**MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER PAUL VI  
TO OLUSEGUN OBASANJO,  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA\***

*Thursday, 20 January 1977*

*To His Excellency  
General Olusegun Obasanjo  
Head of State*

On the happy occasion of the opening of the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture, of which Your Excellency is Honorary President, we are happy to extend to you, to the People of Nigeria, to the President of the Festival and to all the representatives of the countries and peoples taking part, our cordial and prayerful good wishes for the success of this event of such significance for the affirmation and appreciation of the history and of the cultural values originating in the great African Continent.

*From the Vatican, 10 January 1977.*

**PAULUS PP. VI**