

# EARLY BEGINNING OF BOYS AND GIRLS BRIGADE:



## BRIEF HISTORY OF BOYS BRIGADE

The boy's brigade was found by Sir Alexander Williams Smith. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland in October 27<sup>th</sup>, 1854. William A. Smith was an Army Officer before the lord called him for his work; he abandoned his military service and became a Sunday school Teacher at Free Church mission, Northwood side hall in Glasgow Scotland. It was found during the time parents left their children uncared for. Therefore children became wild, undisciplined and were not properly thought with the Bible, hence as an enthusiastic Sunday school Teacher, he discovered what was going on and applied his military knowledge forming what is called BOYS BRIGADE in order to see that children hears the word of God. Though this Boys Brigade organization started with many boys but due to some of the disobedience which many of our companies are facing today made some of the boys ran away due to the hard (harsh) training in Brigade. So they remained only 31 boys including Sir William A. Smith and these were the people that formed Brigade. Brigade started with 28 boys and 3 officers on 4<sup>th</sup> October 1883 at Northwood side hall Free Church mission Glasgow, Scotland. It was known as the 1<sup>st</sup> Glasgow Company in Scotland. The name of the 3 officers are John B. Hill, James R. Hill and Sir William A. Smith. The remaining 28 boys were shared into 3 group; Company boys, Senior boys and Junior boys. The Boys Brigade is the first Christian uniformed organization formed in the world.

Sir William A. Smith became a knight in the year 1909. He died on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1914 at the age of 60 years after the work that God gave him to do. In 1908 Boys Brigade came into Nigeria through Dr. Mac Milliam at Holy Trinity Anglican Church Ebutero, Lagos. In 1936 Boys Brigade was established in Eastern Nigeria at Christ Anglican

Church Onitsha. During the celebration of Boys Brigade in Eastern region, one of Sir William A. Smith came to Nigeria named Major General Stanley B. Smith. The eastern central state council of B.B was reorganized in 1971 with Mr. Sunday Ibeneme as the organizing secretary. In 1936, B.B came into Northern region at Kagoro and was accepted by the chief of Kagoro land. In 1921 Boys' Brigade week started. In 1886 first B.B camp was held. In 1915 was the founder's day inauguration. In 1934 was the first training course for officers. In 1908 Boys Scout started. In 1953 steadfast magazine started. In 1963 international camp, Scotland B.B world conference was held. In 1966 Brigade headquarter was named to BRIGADE HOUSE Lonswo. In 1971, 50 years Anniversary of BB week was held. Today Boys Brigade has been establish in many countries and states with many companies of B.B. it is an international organization which has its headquarter in United Kingdom with Mr. R.L. Rawson as the secretary.

## **BRIEF HISTORY OF GIRLS BRIGADE**

The Girls brigade was founded by Sunday school union in United Kingdom in the year 1893. The founded of Girls Brigade was Late Mrs. Margaret Beauty. Girls Brigade came into the Northern part of Nigeria in the year 1942 and in 1949 it came into the Western Nigeria while it came into the Eastern part of Nigeria in 1951. Girls Brigade was shared into three branches: Girls brigade which started in 1883, Girls Guildry which started in 1900, and Girls life brigade which started in 1902. In 10<sup>th</sup> June 1968 the brigade week of prayer started and it is the date to the memorial of the joining of the three organisation which is celebrated and observed every 10<sup>th</sup> June in the year.

### **1. MEANING OF BOYS' BRIGADE**

Boys Brigade is a uniform voluntary international interdenominational Christian organization founded between two pillars; a. Religion and b. Discipline

It trains boys to become physically, socially, educationally, spiritually and morally fit. It is a movement of boys from the age of six and above.

## 2. THE OBJECT OF BOYS' BRIGADE

The object of boys' brigade is the "advancement of Christ's kingdom among boys and promotion of habits of obedience, reverence, discipline, self-control and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness.

## 3. PROMISE

I promise to carry out my duties in accordance with the constitution and regulation of boys' brigade and to undertake the necessary training at the earliest opportunity.

## 4. AIM OF BOYS' BRIGADE

To advance the kingdom of God among boys so that children will obey the word of God and do what they are supposed to do.

## 5. THE FOUR SQUARE PROGRAMME OF BOYS BRIGADE ARE

6. Spiritual
7. Social

### iii. Educational

1. Physical

### i.) SPIRITUAL

1. Bible stories
2. Bible study
3. Christian faith

### ii.) SOCIAL

1. First aid
2. Primary health care

3. Basic discipline
4. Community service

### iii.) EDUCATIONAL

1. Basic B.B knowledge
1. General knowledge
2. Current affairs

### i.) PHYSICAL

1. Physical activities
2. Elementary drills
3. Squad drill
4. Team game

The B.B aims at training the Boys Physically, Socially, Educationally and Spiritually. See Luke 2:52 “And JESUS increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and man. Increased in wisdom- Educational; Increased in Stature- Physical; In favour with God- Spiritually; In favour with man- Social

### 6. THE SIX METHOD OF B.B

1. Parade/Drill
2. Bible study
3. Uniform
4. Group work
5. Church connection
6. Games and sport

“Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth” (Eccl 12:1). “In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy path” (Prov. 3:6)

### 7. THE MOTTOR OF BOYS' BRIGADE

The motto of Boys' brigade is "SURE & STEADFAST" (Hebrews 6:9)

## 8. THE TWO PILLARS OF BOYS' BRIGADE

The two pillars of Boys' brigade is RELIGION & DISCIPLINE

## 9. THE BADGE

## 10. ENROLMENT

## 11.11. QUALITIES OF A GOOD LEADER

12. He/She should be sympathetic.

13. He/She should be careful.

iii. He/She should be respectful.

1. He/She should be courageous.

2. He/She should be smart.

3. He/She should be sincere.

vii. He/She should not count the lost.

viii. He/She should be observant.

1. The leader must be a person of unquestionable.

## 2. FIRST AID

First aid is the first treatment given to an injured person before taken him/her to the Doctor. The content of the first aid box includes:

1. Needle

2. Bandage

3. Razor

4. Aspirin tea spoon

5. Small towel and soap

6. Scissors

7. Small can

8. Adhesive plaster
9. Cotton wool
10. Bowel
11. Spirit, Dettol or any antiseptic.
12. FORMING OF GIRLS' BRIGADE FROM VILLAGE TO DIVISION
13. a) Village group: Warrant officer helps but after enrolment, Captain or Lieutenant takes over.
14. b) Company: This is the Church that have done their enrolment.
15. c) District: This is made up of Companies, Commandants and Adjutants.

Division: Which is made up of many district headed by the State Commissioner who takes care of it. Example: Anambra Division, Enugu Division etc

#### 14. MEANING OF GIRLS' BRIGADE

It is an international non-denominational organization founded by the Sunday school union in United Kingdom in the year 1893. It was formed with two pillars; Bible Study and Physical Training.

#### 15. THE OBJECT OF GIRLS' BRIGADE

To help girls become followers of our Lord Jesus Christ through reverence, self-control and sense of responsibility to find the enlistment of life.

#### 16. THE PROMISE OF GIRLS' BRIGADE

I promise to do my best to keep the Girls' brigade law in letter and in spirit.

#### 17. THE TWO PILLARS OF GIRLS' BRIGADE

Bible Study and Physical Training

#### 18. THE MOTTO OF G.B

Seek, Serve and follow Christ

In the centre is a Cross, the symbol of Christ and his Church. Below is a lamp that our light may shine out upon the world. Above it is a Crown that we own Christ our King and behind all is a Touch, the flame of Christ living Spirit and our devotion to him.

#### 19. THE FOUR SQUARE PROGRAMME OF GIRLS' BRIGADE ARE:

1. Spiritual: This include Bible Exploring, Moral instruction, Sunday school, Set-apart, Retreat and Prayers
2. Education: This include Art work, knowing Music, Needle work, Domestic science, Nature study and Hygiene.
3. Physical: This include Company drill, Soccer/Football, Matching, Stick game, Net ball, Volley ball, Swimming, etc.
4. Service: First aid, Road Safety, Animal care, Child care, etc.

#### 20. GIRLS' BRIGADE LAW

1. Be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church.
2. Refuse all beans and intoxicating drink.
3. Be pure in thought, word and Deed.
4. Be kind, cheerful and polite.
5. Promptly obey the other of officers.
6. Remember the girls' brigade's motto: Seek, Serve and follow Christ.

#### 21. GIRL'S BRIGADE ANTHEM

Girls' brigade of Nigeria dedicated for service, Good God give us strength to serve for the good of mankind.

#### 22. THE PLADGE

Arise for our Christ has risen, be honest, don't be lazy for the motto of Girls' brigade is seek, serve and follow Christ.

#### 23. THE PRINCIPLES OF GIRLS' BRIGADE

- Christian attitude to sex.
- Christian attitude to gambling.
- Christian attitude to smoking.
- Christian attitude to drug.
- Christian attitude to make ups.
- Christian attitude to indiscipline.

## 24. THE RULES OF GIRLS' BRIGADE

1. Attend all meetings regularly including Sunday school and service.
2. Contributes towards the work of G.B.
3. Support your Captain and help make your company the best.
4. Do not say without see.
5. Do not wear mini.
6. Do not draw tattoos.
7. Have Self-control.

## 25. GIRLS' BRIGADE PRAYERS

Oh God who prepare the disciples for the coming of the Holy Spirit make ready, we beseech you our heart and minds for the indwelling presence of your Son Christ our Lord. Grant that the officer and members of the Girls' brigade may be True and Just in all their dealings, Modest and Gentle in all their words and always Loving and Kind. Bless all others who work for the extension of Christ Kingdom in the lives of young people, so that finally, we may all come to the blessed home through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## 26. GIRLS' BRIGADE BRAVELY AFTER PRAYER

O God make us brave,  
 Joyful brave and true,  
 Brave when we are hurt,  
 Brave when we are frightened,  
 Brave when we are by our self,  
 Brave when others are with us,



Brave because thy art always there to help us,  
Amen.

## 27. THE BOYS' BRIGADE UNIFORM

### 28. COMMISSIONED OFFICERS:

The commissioned officers have two types of uniform.

### UNIFORM A

1. Navy blue suit
2. Navy blue tie
3. White long-sleeve shirt
4. B.B Belt
5. Glengarry cap with cap badge
6. Collar badge
7. Black shoes with black stockings

### 1. NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS: CADET/WARRANT OFFICERS

1. White bush-jacket short sleeve shirt
2. Navy blue trousers
3. Glengarry cap with badge
4. B.B Belt
5. Red lanyard
6. Black shoes with black stockings

### 1. BOYS UNIFORM

### **Senior Boys**

1. White trousers
2. White long sleeve shirt
3. Navy blue tie

4. Navy blue jacket (long sleeve shirt)
5. B.B Belt
6. Haversack
7. White canvas with white stockings
8. Field service cap

### **Company Boys**

1. White trousers
2. Navy blue short sleeve
3. B.B Belt
4. Haversack
5. White canvas with white stockings
6. Field service cap

### **Junior Boys**

1. Navy blue short
2. Light blue shirt
3. Beret
4. Pocket badge
5. B.B Belt
6. White canvas with white stockings

NOTE: N.C.O.S such as staff sergeant, sergeant, full corporal and lance corporals wear Boys' uniform with their respective chevrons on their left arm.

### **1. BAND UNIFORM**

1. White long sleeve shirt
2. Navy blue tie

3. Navy blue long sleeve shirt
4. Beret (navy blue)
5. Red sash
6. White trousers
7. Black shoes with black stockings

#### 1. PATRON AND PETRONESS UNIFORM

##### PATRON

Patron are allowed to put on either the A or B uniforms officers depending on one's resources.

##### PATRONESS

1. Navy blue shirt