NAME: ORI-OLOKUN (Head of Olokun) [The Divinity of The Ocean]

ORIGIN: WEST AFRICA (NIGERIA)

CULTURE: EDO/YORUBA

**OVERVIEW:**

Deities, better known as Orisha (or Orisa) in the Yoruba language, are supernatural entities, who work in tandem with Olodumare, the divine and supreme entity in the Yoruba cosmology/ spirituality in checking that the natural laws are well kept.

Olokun is therefore a deity in Yoruba cosmology/spirituality, who manifests itself through water. It is the deity with the absolute authority over water, sea, ocean, etc. Water is naturally, one of the four revered elements across most African cosmological systems, the other three being fire, earth and wind. It serves as a panacea for purification, healing and regeneration. It is also used in communicating to the supreme deity, in cases of extreme need.

The Ocean or sea, which is the abode of Olokun is notably, the source of all wealth in Yoruba cosmology.

**FUNCTIONS OF OLOKUN:**

The Olokun occupies a prominent place in the pantheon of Yoruba divinities. It is the sustainer of sea life, and an abode of wealth and protection for all adherents who genuinely seek its favor. In being a purifying element, Water enables Olokun to have a great hold in solving grave matters for believers and adherents.

Those who are her devotees are also favored with gift of children.