

position, especially given the fact that he too had unsuccessfully contested for it.

As it were, from 1897, the control of power by the *Oba* shifted to the British and certain selected chiefs led by Chief Agho Obaseki. Hence, there was a change in the Benin political structure between 1897 and 1914, until the institution of the monarchy was restored with certain limitations. We can then see that the monarchy was restored under a new dispensation, which superseded traditional administration. Thus, the monarchy under the new dispensation must exercise powers allowed by the colonial masters. In the process, the monarchy came to be faced with new challenges as a result of the administrative changes that had taken place.