

Handbook Of Yoruba Religious Concepts

The goal of this book is to help you find your Orisha path. Each person has a camino (path) they are meant to walk, and an Orisha meant to guide them. Fostering connections with your path and your guardian Orisha links your presence in the physical world more strongly with the spirit world. Orisha is found throughout the Americas, and in West Africa. It maintains one of the strongest oral traditions in practiced religion, and some estimates date it back to the 8th century A.D. Though there are countless Orisha, this book covers the eight main Orisha: Elegua, Yemaya, Oshun, Chango, Obatala, Oya, Orunmila and Ogun. These Orisha are often called the Seven African Powers (Oya and Orunmila replace one another within the Seven African Powers, depending on region), and each exerts control over the ebbs and flows of our lives. As you read of the Seven African Powers, my hope is that you gravitate toward one of them. While there are initiations and divinations which can more concretely set one in their Orisha path, the first step in finding one's path is to learn of the Orisha. A journey with the Orisha is spiritually enriching, and can bring clarity to situations which remain obscure. Each Orisha has preferred numbers, colors, and offerings. These will be covered, as will their stories, and the proper rituals through which you may reach them. Ultimately, your journey with the Orisha is your own, but hopefully this book can act as a guiding hand, so that you may find your path with one of them.

This short book or pamphlet goes through the fundamentals of Orisha worship from a Lucumi point of view. It includes chapters on getting started, how to take care of ones first orishas, and a guide to devotional life.

Why is religion still around in the twenty-first century? Why do so many still believe? And how do various traditions still shape the way people experience everything from sexuality to politics, whether they are religious or not? In *Why Religion?* Elaine Pagels looks to her own life to help address these questions. These questions took on a new urgency for Pagels when dealing with unimaginable loss—the death of her young son, followed a year later by the shocking loss of her husband. Here she interweaves a personal story with the work that she loves, illuminating how, for better and worse, religious traditions have shaped how we understand ourselves; how we relate to one another; and, most importantly, how to get through the most difficult challenges we face. Drawing upon the perspectives of neurologists, anthropologists, and historians, as well as her own research, Pagels opens unexpected ways of understanding persistent religious aspects of our culture. A provocative and deeply moving account from one of the most compelling religious thinkers at work today, *Why Religion?* explores the spiritual dimension of human experience.

In the realm of African spiritual pathways, no tradition is so widely embraced and practiced as the West African religion Orisa. Awakened by her own spiritual journey, Tobe Melora Correal, an initiated priestess in the Yoruba-Lukumi branch of Orisa, guides us along this blessed road. *FINDING THE SOUL ON THE PATH OF ORISA* provides a fresh look at these ancient teachings and emphasizes introspection and inner work over the outward manifestations of Orisa's practices. Correal debunks misconceptions surrounding the tradition, drawing us into a lushly textured, Earth-centered spiritual system—a compassionate and useful roadmap for revering God.

"Abandon all hope ye who enter here."

Yoruba Proverbs is the most comprehensive collection to date of more than five thousand Yoruban proverbs that showcase Yoruba oral tradition. Following Oyekan Owomoyela's introduction, which provides a framework and description of Yoruba cultural beliefs, the proverbs are arranged by theme into five sections: the good person; the fortunate person (or the good life); relationships; human nature; rights and responsibilities; and truisms. Each proverb is presented in Yoruba with a literal English translation, followed by a brief commentary explaining the meaning of the proverb within the oral tradition. "This definitive source book on Yoruba proverbs is the first to give such detailed, systematic classification and analysis alongside a careful assessment of the risks and pitfalls of submitting this genre to the canons of literary analysis."--BOOK JACKET.

An intellectually stimulating & informative introduction to the practice of the fastest growing African religion in the Americas. Every journey must begin with a first step. Mauge successfully takes you through the Yoruba metaphysical & spiritual journey from heaven to earth & return. He skillfully blends the knowledges & practices of the old world with that of the New World, offering explanations that few have offered before. His chapter on Divination can be considered a textbook of classical knowledge by itself. Ancestor reverence is explained in such a way that the reader will want to communicate with his or her ancestors right away. The reader meets the Yoruba people & acknowledges their belief system which is based on the belief in a Supreme Being. His philosophical treatment of the manifold & often misunderstood subject of reincarnation explains the Yoruba perspective of non-destructible energy & life everlasting.

Deep-rooted African Spirits, the Orishas are given respect and service in modern Santeria, Voodoo, as well as other Caribbean traditions. Many Yoruba and other West Africans still turn to the Orishas for help and guidance in not only their little problems, but also the big problems of life. Inside you will learn that each Orisha have specific abilities, actions, locations, favorites and also how believers can make petitions to the Orisha that is best capable to work out the difficulty they are going through.

Ojise: Messenger of the Yoruba Tradition is a journal of the day-to-day activities and rituals that Karade encountered in his quest for priesthood in the Yoruba religion. Embedded in this journal are the very emotions, ideas and changes in his psyche—and the healing of soul - that occurred on this journey. Karade explains the significance of the spiritual pilgrimage for people of all faiths.

His name's Ku'unbu. He hails from the western region of Oyo, and he's led its army to the Ethiopian plains. Under direct orders from the king, he must protect Princess Emina, the nation's cherished treasure. Ku'unbu remains ever vigilant. Foreboding spirits possess the adolescent princess, wars shake the foundations of the emerging city-state, and betrayals undermine royal authority.

Cuban Ifá From An Insider Hidden within the mysterious Afro-Cuban religion of Santería, also known as Lucumí, there is a deep body of secrets and rituals called Ifá, divination practiced by priests whose title, babalawo, means "Father of the Secrets." This book pulls away the veil of secrecy to reveal exactly what Ifá is and how it works, exploring its history, cosmology, Orichas, initiations, mythology, offerings, and sacrifices. Join Frank Baba Eyiogbe in this fascinating introduction that discusses the functions of the babalawo, the role of women, the future of Ifá, and much more. "A wonderful and much needed addition to the literature on Afro-Cuban religion. Engagingly written, scholarly while remaining accessible . . . it presents an up-to-date exposition of both the history and contemporary philosophy of one of the world's most complex systems of divination."—Stephan Palmié, Chair of the Department of Anthropology and Social Sciences at the University of Chicago and author of *The Cooking of History: How Not to Study Afro-Cuban Religion*

"Throughout Africa and beyond in the Diaspora caused by the slave trade, the divine feminine was revered in the forms of goddesses, like the ancient Nana Buluku; water spirits like Yemaya, Oshun, and Mami Wata; and the warrior Oya. The power of these goddesses and spirit beings has taken root in the West. This book shows us how to celebrate and

cultivate the traits of these goddesses, drawing upon their strengths to empower our own lives"--

Churchward's *The Origin and Evolution of Religion*, first published in 1924, explores the history and development of different religions worldwide, from the religious cults of magic and fetishism to contemporary religions such as Christianity and Islam. This text is ideal for students of theology.

The Ifa/Orisha Religious Tradition: A New World Perspective is the latest work by renown author Oloye "Baba" Ifa Karade. The text centers on the importance of deepening understandings of this African Traditional Faith via historical and societal studies. The thesis is that there is a great importance to having a global perspective on Ifa/Orisha in order to see how the faith developed and how world views impact the thoughts and behaviors, and rituals held by adherents and disciples (iyawos to awos). The text takes the reader on the author's intellectual and spiritual journey, and serves as a culmination of his involvement in Ifa/Orisha for over three decades. Presented are a number of lectures; historical references; travel journals from the author's experiences and studies in Nigeria, the Caribbean, South America. Included also are interviews with the priestly and charts depicting comparative world religions -- to include Ifa/Orisha. Oloye "Baba" Ifa Karade dedicates his book to Zora Neal Hurston, the African-American anthropologist, ethnologist, and initiate in the Ifa/Orisha faith. He sees it as testament to her struggle to go beyond the surface levels slavery and survival and attempt to see the core of the faith from a perspective other than what is depicted and held as "fact". References to her work are included along with other noted scholars in the field. In conclusion, the text is an inner-eye opener guaranteed to stimulate deeper thinking and dialogue around the tenets and global impact of the Ifa/Orisha. And though many might ponder the importance of having historical basis for their involvement or interest in Ifa, at some point, as suggested, it must become of paramount importance to do so. I am honored to have the art work of Juan Picasso gifted to this textbook as well as the photography of Mansa K. Mussa and others.

How difficult is it to communicate with your ancestors? We sense their presence, instinctively, and wish to communicate with them. It's time to realize it is possible. There are numerous reasons you may want to learn how to communicate with your ancestors. For me, the main reason is for healing. To ultimately let go of old hurts and not transfer them on to the next generation. Within the pages of this short read, you will learn: • The Traditions of Ancestral Communication • Who is an Ancestor? • Spiritually Connect With Your Ancestors • How to create an ancestral shrine or altar as well as offerings and prayers. Just like any other relationship, you will need to work at it. Be consistent. Your ancestors will respond to you. By increasing your awareness, you may see the signs they are trying to show you. The best way to begin is now! *Secrets of Voodoo* traces the development of this complex religion (in Haiti and the Americas) from its sources in the brilliant civilizations of ancient Africa. This book presents a straightforward account of the gods or loas and their function, the symbols and signs, rituals, the ceremonial calendar of Voodoo, and the procedures for performing magical rites are given. "Voodoo," derived from words meaning "introspection" and "mystery," is a system of belief about the formation of the world and human destiny with clear correspondences in other world religions. Rigaud makes these connections and discloses the esoteric meaning underlying Voodoo's outward manifestations, which are often misinterpreted. Translated from the French by Robert B. Cross. Drawings and photographs by Odette Mennesson-Rigaud. Milo Rigaud was born in Port au Prince, Haiti, in 1903, where he spent the greater part of his life studying the Voodoo tradition. In Haiti he studied law, and in France ethnology, psychology, and theology. The involvement of Voodoo in the political struggle of Haitian blacks for independence was one of his main concerns.

Explores the essence of life by means of the ancient African divination tool, which is also the spiritual foundation of Candomblé, Santería, and Vodun

In this book, Katrina Hazzard-Donald explores African Americans' experience and practice of the herbal, healing folk belief tradition known as Hoodoo. Working against conventional scholarship, Hazzard-Donald argues that Hoodoo emerged first in three distinct regions she calls "regional Hoodoo clusters" and that after the turn of the nineteenth century, Hoodoo took on a national rather than regional profile. The first interdisciplinary examination to incorporate a full glossary of Hoodoo culture, *Mojo Workin': The Old African American Hoodoo System* lays out the movement of Hoodoo against a series of watershed changes in the American cultural landscape. Throughout, Hazzard-Donald distinguishes between "Old tradition Black Belt Hoodoo" and commercially marketed forms that have been controlled, modified, and often fabricated by outsiders; this study focuses on the hidden system operating almost exclusively among African Americans in the Black spiritual underground.

Ifa Orisa Spirituality is an ancestral wisdom tradition steeped in nature and West African history . Isele (Ee Shay Shay) refers to tradition in Ifa spirituality and refers to the wisdom passed down from our ancestors and spiritual progenitors. Descendants from the African Diaspora displaced during the Trans-Atlantic Slave trade are seeking to return back to our indigenous nature based roots for empowerment and spiritual transformation. The Isele Workbook offers a wealth of information, personal rituals, and exercises that can be done right now to begin to tap this expansive spiritual system whether or not a mentor has been found. It will also offer new practical tools for those who are already devotees of the tradition to deepen their understanding. The workbook is specifically designed for inner work including exercises and rites drawn from traditional practices in Africa but also embraces the evolution of that understanding to be useful and relevant for the 21st Century African Diaspora population. In the Isele Spirituality Workbook, you will learn: * About your unique spiritual anatomy and physiology based on Isele and Ifa * The power of your Ori and its influence in shaping your destiny. * The Pillars of Isele foundations in Ori, Egun, and Egbe. * The role in Iwa or Character in spiritual evolution and healing. * About Asaro meditation and how to use it to cultivate inner peace and healing. * How to cultivate a relationship with your ancestors & healing generational trauma. * About Egbe, your spiritual support system ,soul family & multidimensional worlds * The role of divination in securing answers and how to use a simple method to gain immediate direction and guidance. * Sacred verses in the Ancient Ifa literary corpus to give us timeless guidance. * Sacred

technology using Ewe and easy to find items. * Frequently Asked Questions of Beginners * How to begin the practice of Isele, Ifa Orisa Spirituality in the West and more.

An introduction to the spiritual source of the beliefs and practices that have so profoundly shaped African American religious traditions. Most of the Africans who were enslaved and brought to the Americas were from the Yoruba nation of West Africa, an ancient and vast civilization. In the diaspora caused by the slave trade, the guiding concepts of the Yoruba spiritual tradition took root in Haiti, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Brazil, and the United States. In this accessible introduction, Baba Ifa Karade provides an overview of the Yoruba tradition and its influence in the West. He describes the sixteen Orisha, or spirit gods, and shows us how to work with divination, use the energy centers of the body to internalize the teachings of Yoruba, and create a sacred place of worship. The book also includes prayers, dances, songs, offerings, and sacrifices to honor the Orisha.

Connects the arrival of a new type of children with the fulfillment of the Fifth World of the Mayan Calendar and other great prophecies • Provides detailed information about the world changes that will take place before and after December 21, 2012 • Explores the seven "root races" representing the genetic gene pool of the human family and the phenomenon of soaring intelligence • Explains the grand sweep of human evolution and the worldwide ascension of energy now occurring, which will take humanity to the next level of development According to prophecy, the fifth sun or fifth world of the Mayan calendar moves into a higher octave of vibration, or ascension, on December 21, 2012. This date represents a "gateway" of planetary development that will open humanity to new ways of living and new worlds of opportunity. Ancient traditions have foretold that our successful passage through this gateway depends on the "fifth root race"--new stock in the human gene pool--destined to help us through the exciting and massive changes ahead. In *Beyond the Indigo Children* P. M. H. Atwater illuminates the characteristics of the fifth root race, the capstone being the extraordinary "new children," those brilliant and irreverent kids born since 1982. She explores the relationship of the new children to the prophecies in the Mayan calendar and other traditions, providing extensive background information about the seven root races (the sixth and seventh of which haven't yet appeared) and the great shifting of consciousness already underway. She reveals the connection of the seven root races to the seven chakras, and how the fifth chakra--the chakra of willpower--will be opened for humankind as the new children grow to maturity. She also discusses the phenomenon of soaring intelligence and undeveloped potential and provides concrete guidance and tools for those who seek to understand and help the new children achieve their full potential. *Beyond the Indigo Children* is the first major study of today's children, and their place in our rapidly changing world, that combines objective research with mystical revelation and prophecy.

During the slave trade, the Yoruba of southwestern Nigeria who were brought to Cuba were forbidden to practice their religion by their Spanish masters. To protect themselves, the slaves opted for the identification and disguise of the Orishas with some of the Catholic Saints worshipped by the Spaniards, allowing them to worship their deities without fear of punishment. This book presents the major Orishas of Santería in their syncretic identifications with some of the Catholic Saints.

This mysterious, poetic and often amusing collection of myths illustrates the religion and thought of the West African Yoruba People. The Ifa religion provided healing and foundation during enslavement. It served as a constant reminder of who we are and just how important it is for us to relate to the forces of life and identify with it through our own likeness. During the time when we were being stripped of our self worth, it was our tradition that prevented us from committing total self-annihilation. The worship of Orisha healed our spiritual constitution and gave us some semblance of the reality that it is important for the deities of a people to look like and reflect the self-image of those people. The wisdom of Ifa, as expressed through the Sacred Odu, challenged us to remain true to our moral and righteous construct even in the face of immorality and degradation. In essence, the religious and philosophical basis for our African existence revolved, and continues to revolve around the tenets and fundamental concepts of the Yoruba religious practice. Ifa was the major ingredient in the healing process of the enslaved African; and now it must be made available for the disillusioned African as well.

Carried to the Americas by slaves, the 8,000-year-old philosophy of Ifa originated with the Yoruba peoples of West Africa. Ifa's enduring message of strength and inner peace, one that offers a way to harmonize our spiritual and worldly aims, is enjoying a resurgence of popularity in the West. Written by an avid student and accomplished practitioner, *The Way of the Orisa* provides an exhilarating introduction to the orisa, the powerful messenger spirits who act as our personal guardians. Through fables, rituals, prayers and simple guidelines, Philip Neimark shows how we can further our personal and professional goals by cultivating the loving support of orisa energy. Joyous, wise and eminently practical, *The Way of the Orisa* brings a vibrant ancient tradition to contemporary life.

Are you familiar with the seven African powers? Do you want to learn the secret of their powers? Do you want to cultivate your own spiritual energy? Are you interested in learning how the ancient Yoruba survived slavery with the help of their ancestral spirits? Hundreds of years ago, the Yoruba people of Nigeria and West Africa were brought to America as slaves. Luckily, they successfully preserved their heritage and ancestral spirits by disguising their deities as Catholic saints. In secret, they worshipped. The result is the new-age religion known as Santería, a blend of Catholicism and African traditional beliefs. Santería offers valuable and insightful information into the origins, beliefs, and practices of the syncretic Lucumí religion. This book will teach you the remarkable secrets of the Yoruba people. In this book, you will: Discover how to invoke the orishas and the seven African Powers. Master the art of divination to foretell your future. Never worry about negative and evil forces again. See practical examples of how to use divine power to achieve your goals. Learn the powerful spells and rituals the Yoruba use to channel their gods. Master the use of ashé and iwa pele. Become a powerful child of the gods. And so much more! With this book as your guide, you now have a starting point to the life you desire. Santería will set you on the path to uncovering your roots and help you to establish a spiritual bond with the spirits of your ancestors. So, what are you waiting for? Click on the "Add to Cart" button to get your copy of this book today!

"The sacred texts of Ifa, repository of the accumulated wisdom of countless generations of Yoruba people, are an invaluable source not only for all students of African oral literature and Yoruba civilization, but also for future generations interested in the continuing vitality of Ifa divination and a Yoruba way of life and thought." --Henry Drewal This landmark study of Ifa, the most important and elaborate system of divination of the Yoruba people of Nigeria, remains a monumental contribution to scholarship in anthropology, folklore, religion, philosophy, linguistics, and African and African-American studies.

The authors present the importance of this African tradition. Kindezi (the art of babysitting) and the ndezi (the babysitters) provide extensive value and service to both society and the individual child, making for a cohesive, unified community.

In this introductory volume, Baba Ifa Karade provides an easily understandable overview of the Yoruba religion. He describes 16 orisha and

shows us how to work with divination, to use the chakras to internalize the teachings of Yoruba, and describes how to create a sacred place of worship. Includes prayers, dances, songs, offerings, and sacrifices to honor the orisha and egun. Illustrations, charts, glossary, bibliography, and index.

Millions of people worldwide have been inspired by the Yoruba people, their culture, and their teachings. Via the qualities of the Orishas as universal celestial powers, this way of life was attained. We are always given a guardian Orisha, regardless of race or gender, to watch over and lead us on our path through life. With an perceptive of the Orishas as cosmic forces and how they act within the cosmos and us, the purpose of this book is to enlighten readers. Telling the Orishas story, you would certainly be captivated by the essence of this remarkable civilization with a simple breakdown. Some of the Ideas defined on this e-book are: Santería Exploring in Cuba Who are the African Seven Powers? Magical Associations Obatala's Ways to Invoke the Seven African Powers Human powers and events personified What Orisha do you like more How do you know if an orisha chooses you In Trinidad, the Orisha religion The Spiritual World: Gods' Images Traditions and history How to Invoke Oshun, the Yoruba Goddess of Sensuality and Prosperity A Goddess to Give and Accept Affection A rite for Oshun to invoke

In this introductory volume, Baba Ifa Karade provides an easily understandable overview of the Yoruba religion. He describes 16 orisha and shows us how to work with divination, to use the chakras to internalize the teachings of Yoruba, and describes howto create a sacred place of worship. Includes prayers, dances, songs, offerings, and sacrifices to honor the orisha and egun. Illustrations, charts, glossary, bibliography, and index.

What exactly does it mean to grow up Yoruba? For author Kemba Mchawi, it meant juggling the vastly different worlds of being a teenager in Brooklyn with the curious practices of a religion that started in Africa. While she sometimes felt like she needed dual personalities to live in both of these worlds, she definitely succeeded at mastering them both, and even became an initiated priest of Yemonja. Now, she takes her childhood experience and her teachings to help teenagers everywhere learn more about this religion that has shaped and blessed her way of life. Growing Up Yoruba - A Teen Guide Book for Practicing the Yoruba Lucumi Tradition takes a down-to-earth approach in teaching teenagers how to practice this religion, while still enjoying all of the great things about being a teenager in America. Both memoir and teaching tool, this hip, humorous look at embracing the religion covers everything from must-haves for spiritual rituals to summoning up your Yoruba warrior. To do so, Mchawi shares stories from her own coming-of-age in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn, where she spent as much time hanging around the basketball tournaments as she did developing her religious practices. The involvement of African-Americans in the Yoruba religion now spans over six decades, having emerged in the 1960s, often coming here by way of Cubans of African origin. In her eye-opening book, Mchawi explains this cultural phenomenon, and how people like her mother grew to adopt the religion and create communities throughout America that shared in its practice. Realizing that there were no books for teens to get a richer perspective on the religion, she has taken it as her mission to use her own Kemba voice to address their concerns about getting involved in an African religion while living in America. Along with the stories, she includes the actual 101 type facts on the religion, and what it means to be a part of this dynamic culture. The first book of its kind, her funny, frank voice specifically addresses a younger audience, sharing her firsthand account of growing up in a household practicing Yoruba. For example, she had to sometimes learn to tolerate annoying things like people walking into her house and bossing her around. By offering a deeper understanding of the Yoruba religion, she teaches young believers to find the balance in their lives upholding the religion while also living life experiences to the fullest. Celebrating love of God, good character, and respect of family, Growing Up Yoruba - A Teen Guide Book for Practicing the Yoruba Lucumi Tradition will show any young adult how to make the most of the Yoruba's many gifts, while demonstrating how they can still be an all-American teen.

An inspirational overview of the West African Yoruba traditional indigenous religion and tradition of Ifa, which has spread to worldwide importance. Related to Orunmila, Orisha, Ifa, Odu, Esu, Olodumare, and so on.

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