

odi meji

odi meji is a significant concept deeply rooted in Yoruba culture, spirituality, and divination practices. It represents one of the fundamental binary figures used in the Ifá divination system, which is central to Yoruba religion and philosophy. Understanding odi meji provides insight into the complex symbolic language of Ifá, which conveys wisdom, guidance, and moral teachings through its odus, or signs. This article explores the origins, meanings, and applications of odi meji, examining its role within the broader context of Yoruba spirituality and the Ifá corpus. Additionally, the symbolic interpretations and practical implications of odi meji in contemporary life and divination are discussed. The following sections provide a detailed exploration of odi meji's significance, its divinatory messages, and its cultural relevance.

- Understanding Odi Meji in Ifá Divination
- The Symbolism and Meaning of Odi Meji
- Odi Meji's Role in Yoruba Spirituality
- Practical Applications of Odi Meji
- Odi Meji in Modern Contexts

Understanding Odi Meji in Ifá Divination

Odi meji is one of the sixty-four principal odus, or sacred signs, used in the Ifá divination system. Each odu consists of a unique combination of binary marks, which are interpreted by a Babalawo (Ifá priest) to provide guidance and insight. The Ifá system relies on these odus as symbolic representations of

universal truths and human experiences. Odi meji, in particular, is identified by a specific pattern of marks that distinguishes it from other odus. The divination process involves casting palm nuts or using a divining chain to generate these binary patterns, which then correspond to particular odus such as odi meji. This odu carries distinct messages and teachings that inform decision-making and spiritual understanding.

The Structure of Odi Meji

The name “odi meji” translates literally to “two halves” or “two parts,” reflecting its binary structure within the Ifá system. The odus are traditionally represented by a combination of marks made on a divination tray or board, with odi meji consisting of two solid lines on one side and two broken lines on the other. This configuration symbolizes duality and balance, a recurring theme in Yoruba cosmology. The structure of odi meji not only serves as a visual symbol but also encodes complex philosophical concepts related to harmony, opposition, and integration.

The Role of the Babalawo

The interpretation of odi meji requires the expertise of a Babalawo, who deciphers the messages contained within the odu’s verses, stories, and proverbs. These interpretations are drawn from an extensive corpus of oral literature passed down through generations. The Babalawo’s role is essential in contextualizing odi meji’s guidance for individuals seeking answers about health, wealth, relationships, and spiritual matters. The wisdom contained in odi meji’s verses helps adherents navigate challenges and align with ethical and cosmic principles.

The Symbolism and Meaning of Odi Meji

Odi meji embodies rich symbolic meanings that resonate deeply within the Yoruba worldview. It is often associated with themes of transformation, protection, and balance. As an odu, odi meji conveys messages about the dual nature of existence—light and dark, good and evil, life and death—and the

necessity of harmonizing these forces.

Key Symbolic Themes

The primary themes represented by odi meji include:

- **Duality and Balance:** Odi meji highlights the coexistence of opposing forces and the importance of maintaining equilibrium in life.
- **Transformation:** This odu signals periods of change and the potential for growth through challenges.
- **Protection and Safety:** Odi meji contains invocations and prayers that invoke spiritual protection against harm and misfortune.
- **Wisdom and Guidance:** It emphasizes the need for careful reflection and the pursuit of knowledge to overcome difficulties.

Interpretation in Divination

When odi meji appears during divination, it often indicates that the querent is facing a crucial turning point. The messages encourage patience, vigilance, and adherence to moral principles. The odu advises individuals to seek balance in their actions and relationships, warning against extremes that could lead to conflict or misfortune. Odi meji also reassures that through perseverance and spiritual alignment, obstacles can be overcome and positive outcomes achieved.

Odi Meji's Role in Yoruba Spirituality

Beyond its function in divination, odi meji holds a sacred place within Yoruba spirituality. It is regarded as a source of divine wisdom that connects adherents to Olodumare (the supreme deity) and the orishas (deities). The teachings embedded in odi meji contribute to the ethical and metaphysical framework of Yoruba religious practice.

Connection to Orishas

Odi meji is linked to specific orishas, who embody the forces and values expressed by this odu. These deities serve as intermediaries between humans and the divine, facilitating communication and spiritual support. Through rituals and offerings, followers honor these orishas to invoke the blessings associated with odi meji, seeking harmony and protection.

Ritual Significance

Rituals involving odi meji often include chanting, drumming, and ceremonial sacrifices aimed at activating the odu's power. These practices reinforce community bonds and individual spiritual strength. The invocation of odi meji during festivals or personal rites underscores its importance as a conduit of cosmic balance and spiritual renewal.

Practical Applications of Odi Meji

Odi meji is not only a spiritual symbol but also a practical guide used in decision-making and problem-solving. Its teachings inform various aspects of daily life for practitioners of Ifá and those influenced by Yoruba culture.

Guidance in Personal Life

Individuals consult odi meji for advice on relationships, health, career, and personal development. The odu's messages promote self-awareness and encourage actions aligned with universal harmony. By interpreting odi meji's verses, individuals gain clarity on how to navigate complex situations and avoid pitfalls.

Community and Social Implications

Odi meji also provides guidance on social conduct and communal responsibilities. It stresses the importance of cooperation, respect for elders, and the maintenance of social order. Communities use the wisdom of odi meji to resolve conflicts and foster peaceful coexistence.

List of Practical Applications of Odi Meji

- Decision-making in business and personal matters
- Conflict resolution and mediation within families and communities
- Spiritual protection and cleansing rituals
- Guidance for health and wellness practices
- Enhancement of ethical behavior and moral integrity

Odi Meji in Modern Contexts

In contemporary times, the relevance of odi meji continues to thrive both within and beyond traditional Yoruba settings. Its symbolic framework is increasingly studied in academic, cultural, and spiritual circles worldwide. The adaptability of odi meji's teachings allows it to address modern challenges while preserving its ancient wisdom.

Academic and Cultural Studies

Scholars of African studies, anthropology, and religious studies examine odi meji to understand Yoruba cosmology and its impact on African diaspora cultures. The odu's narratives and symbols contribute to broader discussions on identity, heritage, and intercultural dialogue.

Integration in Global Spirituality

Practitioners of African traditional religions and syncretic spiritual systems incorporate odi meji into their rituals and teachings. Its messages of balance and transformation resonate with universal themes found in many spiritual traditions, facilitating cross-cultural connections.

Technological and Digital Adaptations

With advances in technology, odi meji and other Ifá odus are now accessible through digital platforms and apps, expanding their reach. These tools provide educational resources and divination services, making the wisdom of odi meji available to a global audience.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the meaning of 'Odi Meji' in Ifa divination?

'Odi Meji' is one of the 16 principal Odu in the Ifa divination system, representing duality, balance, and the beginning of wisdom.

How is 'Odi Meji' interpreted in Yoruba culture?

In Yoruba culture, 'Odi Meji' symbolizes the balance between light and darkness, good and evil, and the importance of harmony in life.

What are the key proverbs associated with 'Odi Meji'?

Key proverbs include teachings on patience, destiny, and the interconnectedness of all things, emphasizing that challenges are part of life's journey.

How does 'Odi Meji' influence decision-making in Ifa readings?

'Odi Meji' advises careful consideration and balance, urging individuals to seek wisdom before making important decisions.

What rituals are performed when 'Odi Meji' appears during divination?

Rituals may include offerings, prayers, and chants to Orunmila, seeking guidance and protection based on the messages of 'Odi Meji.'

Can 'Odi Meji' be related to modern life challenges?

Yes, 'Odi Meji' teaches about navigating dualities and finding balance, which is relevant to overcoming personal and societal challenges today.

What symbols are associated with 'Odi Meji'?

'Odi Meji' is often symbolized by two parallel lines or marks, representing duality and the interconnected nature of existence.

How do practitioners use 'Odi Meji' for personal growth?

Practitioners reflect on the messages of 'Odi Meji' to develop patience, wisdom, and balance in their personal and spiritual lives.

What is the historical significance of 'Odi Meji' in Yoruba tradition?

'Odi Meji' holds a foundational role in Yoruba Ifa tradition as one of the earliest Odu, guiding moral and spiritual principles for generations.

Are there any famous stories or myths related to 'Odi Meji'?

Yes, numerous Ifa stories revolve around 'Odi Meji,' illustrating lessons on fate, destiny, and the human experience through metaphorical narratives.

Additional Resources

1. *Odi Meji: The Sacred Divination of Ifa*

This book offers an in-depth exploration of Odi Meji, one of the key Odu in the Ifa divination system. It explains the symbolic meanings, verses, and spiritual insights associated with Odi Meji. Readers can learn how this Odu guides decision-making and imparts wisdom in various life situations.

2. *Unlocking the Secrets of Odi Meji*

A practical guide for practitioners and enthusiasts of Ifa, this book delves into the interpretations and applications of Odi Meji. It breaks down the complex verses into understandable teachings and highlights the role of Odi Meji in personal and communal healing.

3. *The Mysteries of Odi Meji: An Ifa Oracle Perspective*

Focusing on the mystical and esoteric aspects, this title explores how Odi Meji serves as a bridge between the physical and spiritual worlds. It includes traditional chants, rituals, and stories that illuminate the power embedded in this Odu.

4. *Odi Meji and Yoruba Spirituality*

This book situates Odi Meji within the broader context of Yoruba culture and religion. It discusses the historical development of Odi Meji's verses and their significance in Yoruba spiritual practices and festivals.

5. *Living with Odi Meji: Lessons from Ifa*

A reflective and philosophical approach to Odi Meji, this work encourages readers to apply the wisdom of this Odu in everyday life. It offers case studies and personal anecdotes demonstrating the transformative power of embracing Odi Meji's guidance.

6. *Odi Meji: Divination, Healing, and Transformation*

This title emphasizes the healing potentials of Odi Meji, illustrating how divination using this Odu can lead to profound personal transformation. It also covers traditional remedies and rituals linked to Odi Meji's messages.

7. *The Poetry of Odi Meji*

Highlighting the literary beauty of Odi Meji's verses, this book presents a collection of poetic translations and interpretations. It celebrates the artistic and cultural richness of Ifa's oral tradition through the lens of Odi Meji.

8. *Odi Meji: The Odu of Duality and Balance*

This book explores the theme of duality inherent in Odi Meji, examining how it embodies the balance between opposing forces in life. It provides philosophical insights and practical advice on harmonizing these dual aspects for spiritual growth.

9. *Odi Meji in Contemporary Ifa Practice*

Focusing on modern-day usage, this book discusses how Odi Meji is interpreted and applied by contemporary Ifa priests and practitioners. It includes interviews, case studies, and practical guides for integrating traditional wisdom into today's challenges.

Odi Meji

Odi Meji: Unveiling the Mysteries of the Yoruba Divination System

Name: Decoding Odi Meji: A Comprehensive Guide to Yoruba Divination

Contents Outline:

Introduction: A brief overview of the Yoruba people, their culture, and the significance of divination in their lives. Introduction to Odi Meji as a specific divination system.

Chapter 1: Understanding the Odu Ifa: Explaining the Ifa corpus, its structure, and the role of Odi Meji within it. Delving into the concept of Odu and its significance in understanding the universe.

Chapter 2: The Mechanics of Odi Meji Divination: A detailed explanation of the process involved in performing an Odi Meji reading, including the use of the sixteen palm nuts (ikin iffa). Discussion of different casting methods and interpretations.

Chapter 3: Interpreting Odi Meji Readings: Focusing on the interpretation of the various combinations of the sixteen palm nuts and their corresponding meanings. Exploring the symbolic language and imagery used in interpreting the readings.

Chapter 4: Odi Meji and Daily Life: Applying the insights gained from Odi Meji readings to everyday situations. Providing practical advice on using divination for decision-making, problem-solving, and self-improvement.

Chapter 5: Ethical Considerations and Responsible Divination: Addressing ethical concerns related to divination, emphasizing the importance of respect, responsibility, and avoiding misuse of the system.

Conclusion: Recap of key concepts, encouragement for further study and practice, and emphasizing the ongoing relevance of Odi Meji in modern society.

Decoding Odi Meji: A Comprehensive Guide to Yoruba Divination

Introduction: A Glimpse into the World of Yoruba Divination

The Yoruba people, primarily residing in southwestern Nigeria and neighboring regions, possess a rich and vibrant culture deeply intertwined with spirituality. Divination plays a central role in their lives, providing guidance, understanding, and a connection to the unseen forces shaping their destinies. Among the various divination systems employed by the Yoruba, Odi Meji stands out as a powerful and insightful method, offering a unique perspective on life's complexities. This comprehensive guide delves into the intricacies of Odi Meji, exploring its mechanics, interpretations, and practical applications. Understanding Odi Meji requires understanding the broader context of the Yoruba cosmology and its intricate relationship with the Ifa corpus.

Chapter 1: Understanding the Odu Ifa - The Foundation of Odi Meji

The Ifa corpus forms the bedrock of Yoruba divination. It's an extensive body of oral and written traditions encompassing thousands of Odu – complex, symbolic narratives that reflect various aspects of life, human experience, and the interconnectedness of the universe. Each Odu possesses unique characteristics, lessons, and symbolic imagery. Odi Meji, as a divination system, operates within the framework of Ifa, drawing upon its wisdom and utilizing its symbolic language to provide insightful readings. Understanding the structure and symbolism of Ifa is crucial for accurately interpreting Odi Meji consultations. The Odu are not simply predictions; they are rich allegorical tales offering guidance, moral instruction, and a deeper understanding of one's place within the cosmic order. They reveal patterns, offer solutions, and inspire personal growth. Odi Meji acts as a key to unlocking specific Odu relevant to a particular situation.

Chapter 2: The Mechanics of Odi Meji Divination - The Art of Casting

Odi Meji divination utilizes sixteen palm nuts (ikin iffa), skillfully manipulated by the diviner (Babalawo) to determine the relevant Odu. The process is not merely a random tossing of nuts; it's a precise ritual demanding years of practice and deep understanding. The diviner, through a series of methodical throws, creates various combinations of even and odd numbers of nuts. These combinations correspond to specific Odu within the Ifa corpus. Different schools of thought exist regarding the precise casting methods, with variations in technique adding layers of complexity. Each throw is carefully considered, with the Babalawo attuned to subtle nuances in the arrangement of the nuts and the surrounding environment. The casting process itself is a form of communication with the unseen, allowing the diviner to channel divine wisdom. This chapter will explore the various techniques used to cast the Ikin Iffa for Odi Meji, providing detailed visual aids and explanations.

Chapter 3: Interpreting Odi Meji Readings - Unraveling the Symbolic Language

Interpreting Odi Meji readings requires a deep understanding of Yoruba symbolism and the allegorical nature of the Ifa Odu. Each combination of even and odd nuts points towards a specific Odu, revealing a story and offering insights into the situation at hand. The diviner doesn't simply recite a prediction; they weave a narrative, drawing upon the wisdom of the Odu to illuminate the client's circumstances. The interpretation is a collaborative process, involving both the diviner and the client in a dialogue that clarifies the reading's meaning and its relevance to the individual's life. This chapter will explore a selection of key Odi Meji readings, outlining their associated Odu, symbolism, and interpretations. It will delve into the rich metaphorical language employed in interpreting the readings, emphasizing the importance of context and nuance.

Chapter 4: Odi Meji and Daily Life - Practical Applications of Divination

Odi Meji divination is not confined to grand pronouncements about the future; it is a tool for navigating the complexities of daily life. Its insights can be applied to a wide range of situations, from making important decisions to resolving conflicts, improving relationships, and fostering personal growth. The wisdom gained from an Odi Meji reading can help individuals gain clarity, make informed choices, and overcome obstacles. This chapter explores practical examples of how Odi Meji readings can be used in various aspects of life, providing real-world scenarios and practical advice. It emphasizes the empowering nature of divination, providing tools for self-awareness and proactive decision-making.

Chapter 5: Ethical Considerations and Responsible Divination - Maintaining Integrity

Like any powerful tool, divination can be misused. This chapter stresses the ethical responsibilities of both the diviner and the client. It emphasizes the importance of respect, honesty, and a commitment to responsible divination practices. The use of Odi Meji should not be about exploiting vulnerabilities or making irresponsible promises. It is about providing guidance, facilitating self-discovery, and promoting positive change. The chapter will explore the potential pitfalls of divination misuse, providing guidance on responsible practices and ethical decision-making. This includes discussing the responsibility of the Babalawo to accurately interpret and guide, and the client's need for open honesty and critical reflection.

Conclusion: Embracing the Wisdom of Odi Meji

Odi Meji divination offers a profound glimpse into the Yoruba worldview and a powerful method for gaining insights into life's complexities. Its enduring relevance lies in its ability to provide guidance, promote self-awareness, and foster personal growth. This guide provides a foundational understanding of Odi Meji, encouraging further study and exploration of this rich and insightful divination system. The continued practice and responsible application of Odi Meji serve to preserve and honor the traditions of the Yoruba people while empowering individuals with the tools for a more fulfilling and meaningful life.

FAQs

1. What are the necessary tools for Odi Meji divination? Primarily, sixteen palm nuts (ikin iffa) and a

deep understanding of the Ifa corpus are essential.

2. Can anyone learn Odi Meji? While anyone can learn the mechanics, accurate interpretation requires years of dedicated study and apprenticeship under an experienced Babalawo.

3. How accurate is Odi Meji divination? Odi Meji provides insights and guidance, not absolute predictions. The accuracy depends on the skill of the diviner and the client's willingness to reflect on the interpretation.

4. Is Odi Meji only for predicting the future? No, it offers guidance for decision-making, problem-solving, and understanding the present as much as the future.

5. What is the role of the Babalawo? The Babalawo acts as a conduit, channeling the wisdom of Ifa and interpreting the Odu to provide guidance.

6. Can Odi Meji be used for harmful purposes? Ethically, it should never be used for harm. Its purpose is to guide towards positive outcomes.

7. How often should someone consult Odi Meji? This depends on individual needs. It is not meant for daily use but as needed for significant life events or decisions.

8. Are there different interpretations of Odi Meji readings? Yes, interpretations can vary slightly depending on the diviner's experience and understanding of Ifa.

9. Where can I find more information about Odi Meji? Further research can be done through academic works on Yoruba culture, anthropological studies, and consultations with knowledgeable Babalawos.

Related Articles:

1. The Ifa Oracle: A Deep Dive into Yoruba Cosmology: This article explores the broader context of Yoruba spirituality and the Ifa divination system.

2. Understanding the Odu Ifa: A Guide to the Major Odu: This article focuses on the key Odu within the Ifa corpus and their symbolic meanings.

3. Becoming a Babalawo: The Path of Yoruba Divination: This article explores the training and responsibilities of a Babalawo.

4. The Significance of Palm Nuts in Yoruba Culture: This article details the symbolism and spiritual significance of palm nuts in Yoruba traditions.

5. Opele Divination: A Comparison with Odi Meji: This article compares and contrasts Odi Meji with other Yoruba divination methods.

6. Egungun Masquerade: A Ritualistic Dance of Yoruba Ancestors: This explores related Yoruba traditions that contextualize Odi Meji.

7. The Role of Sacrifice in Yoruba Spirituality: This examines ritual practices related to divination and Yoruba worship.

8. Yoruba Proverbs and their Wisdom: This article explores the rich proverb tradition of the Yoruba.

9. Modern Applications of Yoruba Divination: This article explores the adaptation and use of Yoruba divination systems in contemporary life.

odi meji: THE 256NODU IFA CUBAN AND TRADITIONAL VOL.25 Odi Meji-Odi Ogbe
MARCELO MADAN, 2022-07-02 These Treatises of the Odu of Ifá in volumes, are very complete, since In addition to treating the Afro-Cuban Odu de Ifá, they also contain Traditional African Ifá treatises. Both gather thousands of Pataki or Histories, thousands of Eboses and works, which will make it easier for you to deepen your study and solve any situation that arises in the religious field of consulting the Ifa oracle. The Synthesis of the Treaties of the Odu of Ifá already published by me

previously, is nothing more than as its name indicates, a synthesis of these treaties, whose objective was always to support to the Babalawo as a handy pocket reminder, based on the fact that it has been studied and deepened before in the study of these volumes which will lead you to have the most complete knowledge about Ifá. For these reasons, it is highly recommended to have this valuable information in your library. We have grouped only two Odu per book, to make it as cheap as possible and facilitate its acquisition.

odi meji: *The Diloggún Ócha'ni Lele*, 2003-07-28 The first book on Santería's holiest divination system, the Diloggún. Explores the lore surrounding this mysterious oracle, the living Bible of one of the world's fastest growing faiths. Examines each family of odu and how their actions affect the spiritual development of the individual. An indispensable guide to the mysteries of the orishas.

odi meji: **TRATADO DE LOS ODU IFA VOL. 25 Odi Meji-Odi Ogbe** MARCELO MADAN, 2022-07-11 Estos Tratados de los Odu de Ifá en volúmenes, están muy completos, ya que además de tratar los Odu de Ifá afro-cubanos, contienen también tratados de Ifá Tradicional africano. Ambos reúnen miles de Pataki o Historias, miles de Eboses y obras, que le facilitará profundizar en el estudio y resolver cualquier situación que se presente en el ámbito religioso de la consulta al oráculo de Ifá. Se trata de un trabajo de investigación de más de 20 años realizado por mí, cuando todavía no había ninguna información publicadas con las características de mis publicaciones, reuniendo información de entre experimentados sacerdotes de ifá, que me ha permitido hacer este gran compendio en cuatro grandes tomos registrados y publicados desde entonces. La Síntesis de los Tratados de los Odu de Ifá ya publicada por mí con anterioridad, no es más que como su nombre lo indica, una síntesis de estos tratados, cuyo objetivo fue siempre, apoyar al Babalawo como un recordatorio a mano de bolso, partiendo de la base, de que se ha estudiado y profundizado antes en estos temas. Por tales motivos, es altamente recomendable, contar con esta valiosa información en su biblioteca. Hemos agrupado sólo dos Odu en cada volumen, por lo que preveo será un total de 128 volúmenes para facilitar su adquisición.

odi meji: *Queering Creole Spiritual Traditions* Randy P Lundschienn Conner, David Sparks, 2014-04-08 What roles do queer and transgender people play in the African diasporic religions? *Queering Creole Spiritual Traditions: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Participation in African-Inspired Traditions in the Americas* is a groundbreaking scholarly exploration of this long-neglected subject. It offers clear insight into the complex dynamics of gender and sexual orientation, humans and deities, and race and ethnicity, within these richly nuanced spiritual practices. *Queering Creole Spiritual Traditions* explores the ways in which gender complexity and same-sex intimacy are integral to the primary beliefs and practices of these faiths. It begins with a comprehensive overview of Vodou, Santería, and other African-based religions. The second section includes extensive, revealing interviews with practitioners who offer insight into the intersection of their beliefs, their sexual orientation, and their gender identity. Finally, it provides a powerful analysis of the ways these traditions have inspired artists, musicians, and writers such as Audre Lorde, as well as informative interviews with the artists themselves. In *Queering Creole Spiritual Traditions*, you will discover: how the presence of androgynous divinities affects both faith and practice in Vodou, Candomblé, Santería, and other Creole religions how the phenomenon of possession or embodiment by a god or goddess may validate queer identity and nurture gender complexity who practices the African-derived spiritual traditions, what they believe, and who their deities are how these faiths have influenced the art and aesthetic traditions of the West This landmark book opens a fascinating new world of thought and belief. The authors provide rigorous documentation and faultless scholarly method as well as personal experience and the testimony of believers. *Queering Creole Spiritual Traditions* sheds new light on two widely different fields: LGBT studies and the theology of the African diaspora. A thorough bibliography points the way to further study, and an extensive photograph gallery provides a unique look at the believers and their practices. Every library with holdings in queer theory, African mythology, or sociology of religion should have this landmark volume.

odi meji: *Sixteen Cowries* William W. Bascom, 1980-05-22 ... a landmark in research of African

oral traditions.—African Arts ... a significant contribution to the understanding of Yoruba religious belief, magic, and art. —Journal of Religion in Africa Yoruba texts and English translations of a divination system that originated in Nigeria and is widely practiced today by male and female diviners in the diaspora. A landmark edition.

odi meji: African Traditional Medicine DAVID OYEBOLA MD, 2020-02-10 This book is written to provide information on various aspects of Yoruba, and, indeed, African traditional medicine. The writer's research on Yoruba traditional medicine provides the bulk of the materials in the book. The book consists of eleven chapters. Chapters 1 and 2 provide the background to the book. Chapters 3 to 10 encapsulate the different aspects of Yoruba traditional medicine such as classification of healers, methods of training of healers, methods of diagnosis and investigation of diseases, treatment of diseases, Yoruba pharmacopoeia, midwifery, bone-setting, and other forms of traditional surgery. Chapter 11 describes the meeting point of hospitals and healers; this meeting point, in the opinion of the author, should be how best to serve the interests of the patients. The best form of relationship that should exist between hospitals and healers is also discussed. The two systems of medicine exist side by side in Nigeria and most African countries yet remain functionally unrelated in any intentional sense. It is argued that no medical system is perfect and no single care system has all the answers to all human health and related problems. Each of the two systems has its strong and weak points. The often talked-about integration of the two systems has potential pitfalls and may be undesirable. The book concludes that the best form of relationship may well be one of genuine cooperation and mutual respect between the two systems since this will lead, in the ultimate, to advancement of medical knowledge and overall improvement of patient care. All levels of government in Nigeria have decisive roles to play in achieving this mutually beneficial cooperation of the two systems.

odi meji: Yemoja Solimar Otero, Toyin Falola, 2013-11-01 Bridges theory, art, and practice to discuss emerging issues in transnational religious movements in Latina/o and African diasporas. This is the first collection of essays to analyze intersectional religious and cultural practices surrounding the deity Yemoja. In Afro-Atlantic traditions, Yemoja is associated with motherhood, women, the arts, and the family. This book reveals how Yemoja traditions are negotiating gender, sexuality, and cultural identities in bold ways that emphasize the shifting beliefs and cultural practices of contemporary times. Contributors come from a wide range of fields—religious studies, art history, literature, and anthropology—and focus on the central concern of how different religious communities explore issues of race, gender, and sexuality through religious practice and discourse. The volume adds the voices of religious practitioners and artists to those of scholars to engage in conversations about how Latino/a and African diaspora religions respond creatively to a history of colonization.

odi meji: Deep Knowledge Oludamini Ogunnaike, 2020-11-11 This book is an in-depth, comparative study of two of the most popular and influential intellectual and spiritual traditions of West Africa: Tijani Sufism and Ifa. Employing a unique methodological approach that thinks with and from—rather than merely about—these traditions, Oludamini Ogunnaike argues that they contain sophisticated epistemologies that provide practitioners with a comprehensive worldview and a way of crafting a meaningful life. Using theories belonging to the traditions themselves as well as contemporary oral and textual sources, Ogunnaike examines how both Sufism and Ifa answer the questions of what knowledge is, how it is acquired, and how it is verified. Or, more simply: What do you know? How did you come to know it? How do you know that you know? After analyzing Ifa and Sufism separately and on their own terms, the book compares them to each other and to certain features of academic theories of knowledge. By analyzing Sufism from the perspective of Ifa, Ifa from the perspective of Sufism, and the contemporary academy from the perspective of both, this book invites scholars to inhabit these seemingly “foreign” intellectual traditions as valid and viable perspectives on knowledge, metaphysics, psychology, and ritual practice. Unprecedented and innovative, Deep Knowledge makes a significant contribution to cross-cultural philosophy, African philosophy, religious studies, and Islamic studies. Its singular approach advances our understanding

of the philosophical bases underlying these two African traditions and lays the groundwork for future study.

odi meji: Ile Ifa International Oluwo Ifakolade Obafemi, 2011-02-09 There is no available information at this time.

odi meji: TRATADO DE LOS ODU IFA VOL.49 Obara Meji-Obara Ogbe MARCELO MADAN, 2022-08-04 Estos Tratados de los Odu de Ifá en volúmenes, están muy completos, ya que además de tratar los Odu de Ifá afro-cubanos, contienen también tratados de Ifá Tradicional africano. Ambos reúnen miles de Pataki o Historias, miles de Eboses y obras, que le facilitará profundizar en el estudio y resolver cualquier situación que se presente en el ámbito religioso de la consulta al oráculo de Ifá. Se trata de un trabajo de investigación de más de 20 años realizado por mí, cuando todavía no había ninguna información publicadas con las características de mis publicaciones, reuniendo información de entre experimentados sacerdotes de ifá, que me ha permitido hacer este gran compendio en cuatro grandes tomos registrados y publicados desde entonces. La Síntesis de los Tratados de los Odu de Ifá ya publicada por mí con anterioridad, no es más que como su nombre lo indica, una síntesis de estos tratados, cuyo objetivo fue siempre, apoyar al Babalawo como un recordatorio a mano de bolso, partiendo de la base, de que se ha estudiado y profundizado antes en estos temas. Por tales motivos, es altamente recomendable, contar con esta valiosa información en su biblioteca. Hemos agrupado sólo dos Odu en cada volumen, por lo que preveo será un total de 128 volúmenes para facilitar su adquisición.

odi meji: Eshu y Elegua Ingles MARCELO MADAN, 2024-03-24 In this edition Treated about Eshu-Elegua Orishas Collection, it deals extensively with everything related to these important orishas, letting you know all the necessary knowledge about them, a large list of Eshu, their names, characteristics, their ceremonies. , rituals, works, list of plants and stories. It is a fundamental book to understand and learn the Osha rule in Cuba and which, you cannot miss in your library.

odi meji: THE 256 ODU IFA VOL. 49 OBARA MEJI-OBARA OGBE Marcelo Madan, 2023-01-26 These Treatises of the Odu of Ifá in volumes, are very complete, since In addition to treating the Afro-Cuban Odu de Ifá, they also contain Traditional African Ifá treatises. Both gather thousands of Pataki or Histories, thousands of Eboses and works, which will make it easier for you to deepen your study and solve any situation that arises in the religious field of consulting the Ifa oracle. The Synthesis of the Treaties of the Odu of Ifá already published by me previously, is nothing more than as its name indicates, a synthesis of these treaties, whose objective was always to support to the Babalawo as a handy pocket reminder, based on the fact that it has been studied and deepened before in the study of these volumes which will lead you to have the most complete knowledge about Ifá. For these reasons, it is highly recommended to have this valuable information in your library. We have grouped only two Odu per book, to make it as cheap as possible and facilitate its acquisition.

odi meji: The Root of Wisdom Babatunde Akanji, 2019-09-20 An enlightening look into the Yoruba culture and religion, rooted in the history of Yorubaland (southwestern Nigeria and the adjoining parts of Benin and Togo), The Root of Wisdom will engage readers from a variety of backgrounds. As interest in this culture increases in academia, including in non-African circles, more research is being conducted into the thought, practices, and culture of the Yoruba people. The Yoruba believe that all they create carries religious significance, and that humanity's spiritual consciousness leads to the creation and practice of religion itself. Readers will develop a better understanding of the ideal purpose in life for the Yoruba people, and will appreciate the beauty of the culture as it strives toward this deeper meaning and beauty of existence.

odi meji: Osun across the Waters Joseph M. Murphy, Mei-Mei Sanford, 2001-10-09 Æ'sun is a brilliant deity whose imagery and worldwide devotion demand broad and deep scholarly reflection. Contributors to the ground-breaking Africa's Ogun, edited by Sandra Barnes (Indiana University Press, 1997), explored the complex nature of Ogun, the orisa who transforms life through iron and technology. Æ'sun across the Waters continues this exploration of Yoruba religion by documenting Æ'sun religion. Æ'sun presents a dynamic example of the resilience and renewed importance of traditional Yoruba images in negotiating spiritual experience, social identity, and political power in

contemporary Africa and the African diaspora. The 17 contributors to *À'sun across the Waters* delineate the special dimensions of *À'sun* religion as it appears through multiple disciplines in multiple cultural contexts. Tracing the extent of *À'sun* traditions takes us across the waters and back again. *À'sun* traditions continue to grow and change as they flow and return from their sources in Africa and the Americas.

odi meji: *What Gender is Motherhood?* Oyèrónké Oyěwùmí, 2016-04-29 In this book, Oyěwùmí extends her path-breaking thesis that in Yorùbá society, construction of gender is a colonial development since the culture exhibited no gender divisions in its original form. Taking seriously indigenous modes and categories of knowledge, she applies her finding of a non-gendered ontology to the social institutions of Ifá, motherhood, marriage, family and naming practices. Oyěwùmí insists that contemporary assertions of male dominance must be understood, in part, as the work of local intellectuals who took marching orders from Euro/American mentors and colleagues. In exposing the depth of the coloniality of power, Oyěwùmí challenges us to look at the worlds we inhabit, anew.

odi meji: *African Oral Literature* Howard James Jordan, 2024-04-10 *African Oral Literature: Its Philosophical Thoughts Conveyed in Yoruba Society* explores the ways that the Yoruba people of Nigeria have made remarkable contributions to the world's civilization. Yoruba philosophical, religious tenets, artistic tenets, ideas, and icons have helped to transform religious beliefs and practices and the arts. When considering the study of Yoruba oral traditions, one learns how its philosophical concepts are the bases for an interpretation of what constitutes their aesthetic performance in art forms. This book introduces distinguished Yoruba cultural historians documenting the full spectrum, which extends beyond the visual art form. Through oral tradition, the effigy with its ako naturalism is not judged for its photographic realism, but for its efficacy within the context of the ako traditional ceremony, which is intended to make the end of this life and the beginning of the next one honorable and dignifying for one's parents where good will is needed by those still on earth. About the Author Howard James Jordan was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1948. He is a lifetime member of the following associations: The Buffalo Soldiers, 24th Infantry Regiment of New Jersey; The Buffalo Soldiers 9th & 10th Horse Cavalry Association of Baltimore, MD and Los Angeles, CA; Disabled American Veterans (DVA) and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dept. of New Jersey. Howard's hobbies include writing, reading history, dancing, roller skating, horseback riding, traveling, wood carving, and painting. He also taught art in Nigeria Secondary Schools, was a research assistant at Nigerian University, and taught special education in Philadelphia Public Schools.

odi meji: *Òrìṣà Devotion as World Religion* Jacob Kẹhinde Olupona, Terry Rey, 2008 As the twenty-first century begins, tens of millions of people participate in devotions to the spirits called Òrìṣà. This book explores the emergence of Òrìṣà devotion as a world religion, one of the most remarkable and compelling developments in the history of the human religious quest. Originating among the Yorùbá people of West Africa, the varied traditions that comprise Òrìṣà devotion are today found in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Australia. The African spirit proved remarkably resilient in the face of the transatlantic slave trade, inspiring the perseverance of African religion wherever its adherents settled in the New World. Among the most significant manifestations of this spirit, Yorùbá religious culture persisted, adapted, and even flourished in the Americas, especially in Brazil and Cuba, where it thrives as Candomblé and Lukumi/Santería, respectively. After the end of slavery in the Americas, the free migrations of Latin American and African practitioners has further spread the religion to places like New York City and Miami. Thousands of African Americans have turned to the religion of their ancestors, as have many other spiritual seekers who are not themselves of African descent. Ifá divination in Nigeria, Candomblé funerary chants in Brazil, the role of music in Yorùbá revivalism in the United States, gender and representational authority in Yorùbá religious culture--these are among the many subjects discussed here by experts from around the world. Approaching Òrìṣà devotion from diverse vantage points, their collective effort makes this one of the most authoritative texts on Yorùbá religion and a groundbreaking book that heralds this rich, complex, and variegated tradition as one of the world's

great religions.

odi meji: THE IFÁ SYSTEM Michael Abby, 2024-01-15 In *The Ifá System: Is Ifá a Culture, Tradition, or Religion?*, delve into the intriguing depths of one of the world's most enigmatic belief systems. Uncover the interweaving threads of culture, tradition, and religion that have shaped Ifá into a profound and enduring force. Step into a world where the ancient wisdom of the Yoruba people takes center stage. Explore the roots of Ifá, tracing its origins back to the shores of West Africa. With painstaking research and meticulous attention to detail, this book demystifies the complexities surrounding Ifá, confidently guiding readers through its multifaceted nature. Is Ifá solely a religion? Or does it encompass much more? Embark on a thought-provoking journey as the author challenges conventional definitions, unraveling the layers of Ifá's

odi meji: Hand of Ifa Chief Dr. Ayele Kumari, 2022-11-16 One of the first steps to Ifa is getting a Hand Of Ifa. It's reception marks a turning point where an individual begins to line up with their destiny, While a hand of Ifa is not a full initiation to Ifa, it is an advanced step beyond general interest and before you Initiate fully. Many practitioners at this level find themselves lost, not quite being a beginner and not an initiate either. A book like this has never been done specifically for practitioners at this level. It is a guide for people who have received a hand of ifa, gone through an Isefa ceremony, intend to initiate to Ifa, and also for people who are initiated but have had little instructions on how to manage and work with their Ifa. It can also be very valuable for people who are ready to take the next step in their Ifa journey as they prepare to receive a hand or initiate. Hand of Ifa is a workbook with exercises to further the Onifa and devotee development. It also offers an introduction to the 16 Meji Odus, their verses, and significance with soul development and personal growth. The individual will learn key foundational skills for success in Ifa such as: How to utilize Oriki for invocation and even create an Oriki How to care for Ifa and Esu shrines How to perform Ose Ifa How to assess our spiritual debts and cress through a Spiritual Balance sheet How to understand and interpret Ifa verses How to read Ifa signatures How to prepare some Ifa Akose (Spiritual Medicines) How to gain a personal understanding of Odus via their psychology and practical expressions. And more... One of the first steps to Ifa is getting a Hand Of Ifa. It's reception marks a turning point where an individual begins to line up with their destiny, While a hand of Ifa is not a full initiation to Ifa, it is an advanced step beyond general interest and before you Initiate fully. Many practitioners at this level find themselves lost, not quite being a beginner and not an initiate either. A book like this has never been done specifically for practitioners at this level. It is a guide for people who have received a hand of ifa, gone through an Isefa ceremony, intend to initiate to Ifa, and also for people who are initiated but have had little instructions on how to manage and work with their Ifa. It can also be very valuable for people who are ready to take the next step in their Ifa journey as they prepare to receive a hand or initiate. Hand of Ifa is a workbook with exercises to further the Onifa and devotee development. It also offers an introduction to the 16 Meji Odus, their verses, and significance with soul development and personal growth. The individual will learn key foundational skills for success in Ifa such as: How to utilize Oriki for invocation and even create an Oriki How to care for Ifa and Esu shrines How to perform Ose Ifa How to assess our spiritual debts and cress through a Spiritual Balance sheet How to understand and interpret Ifa verses How to read Ifa signatures How to prepare some Ifa Akose (Spiritual Medicines) How to gain a personal understanding of Odus via their psychology and practical expressions. And more...

odi meji: Actes Sol Tax, 1952

odi meji: Orunmila , 1989

odi meji: Guide to Afro-Cuban Herbalism Dalia Quiros-Moran, 2009-12 *Guide to Afro-Cuban Herbalism* is aimed to serve as a reference tool for practitioners of the various african based traditions such as Afro-Cuban Orisha/Ifa Worship, Vodou, Camdomble, et al. This book provides extensive information on the medicinal, religious and magical uses of 700 plants.

odi meji: The Dead Sell Memories George Brandon, 1983

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Afro-Cuban Odu de Ifá, they also contain Traditional African Ifá treatises. Both gather thousands of Pataki or Histories, thousands of Eboses and works, which will make it easier for you to deepen your study and solve any situation that arises in the religious field of consulting the Ifa oracle. The Synthesis of the Treaties of the Odu of Ifá already published by me previously, is nothing more than as its name indicates, a synthesis of these treaties, whose objective was always to support to the Babalawo as a handy pocket reminder, based on the fact that it has been studied and deepened before in the study of these volumes which will lead you to have the most complete knowledge about Ifá. For these reasons, it is highly recommended to have this valuable information in your library. We have grouped only two Odu per book, to make it as cheap as possible and facilitate its acquisition.

odi meji: *Two Forms of Afro-Cuban Divination* William Russell Bascom, 1952

odi meji: Selected Papers Sol Tax, 1967

odi meji: Sàngó in Africa and the African Diaspora Joel E. Tishken, Toyin Falola, Akintunde Akinyemi, 2009-06-22 Sàngó in Africa and the African Diaspora is a multidisciplinary, transregional exploration of Sàngó religious traditions in West Africa and beyond. Sàngó—the Yoruba god of thunder and lightning—is a powerful, fearful deity who controls the forces of nature, but has not received the same attention as other Yoruba orishas. This volume considers the spread of polytheistic religious traditions from West Africa, the mythic Sàngó, the historical Sàngó, and syncretic traditions of Sàngó worship. Readers with an interest in the Yoruba and their religious cultures will find a diverse, complex, and comprehensive portrait of Sàngó worship in Africa and the African world.

odi meji: Ifa Festival Emanuel Abosede, 2000 This book won The Noma Award for Publishing in Africa in 2001. The jury describes it thus: 'The work is an outstanding and significant cultural document, and an important part of the movement of cultural reclamation from within Africa. It assumes direct intellectual responsibility by the Yoruba for their collective history and culture; and extends the scope of Ifa studies in a new and original way...the author displays deep familiarity with indigenous sources, living practitioners and scholarly literature. The book, the product of thirty year's work, will stand as a benchmark for years to come.

odi meji: The 6 Ifa paths to success and prosperity Daviel Valdés, 2021-05-27 Don't you think it is already the moment to make a radical change in your life? Don't you think it is the time to achieve your most immediate goals and to go in search of everything you've ever wished for? This book will guide you, through the different Ifa paths, to learn about and implement the six most important laws of success. These universal laws have always existed and, from the beginning, have been immersed within the teachings of Ifa. But, very few people have been able to really understand their essence and put them into practice, as it is required to be done. It is a mistake to think that we come into the world for something other than to enjoy a fulfilling life: a life overflowing with financial success, love, health, and happiness. No matter how difficult your past was or how complicated your present may be; no matter the place where you are or the incomes you are receiving; no matter your sex or your age; regardless of your condition, this book will change your life forever and will lead you to achieve the goals and the lifestyle you've always dreamed of.

odi meji: TTHE 256 ODU OF IFA VOL. 99 Otura Odi-Otura Irosun MARCELO MADAN, 2023-12-14 These Treatises of the Odu of Ifá in volumes, are very complete, since In addition to treating the Afro-Cuban Odu de Ifá, they also contain Traditional African Ifá treatises. Both gather thousands of Pataki or Histories, thousands of Eboses and works, which will make it easier for you to deepen your study and solve any situation that arises in the religious field of consulting the Ifa oracle. The Synthesis of the Treaties of the Odu of Ifá already published by me previously, is nothing more than as its name indicates, a synthesis of these treaties, whose objective was always to support to the Babalawo as a handy pocket reminder, based on the fact that it has been studied and deepened before in the study of these volumes which will lead you to have the most complete knowledge about Ifá. For these reasons, it is highly recommended to have this valuable information in your library. We have grouped only two Odu per book, to make it as cheap as possible and facilitate its acquisition.

odi meji: Praying in the Shadows Iya A. C. Culver, 2009-06 Prayer is something that is needed everyday. Not just because we want something from God and the Spirits; pray to show gratitude. Saying thank you goes a long way! To God and the Spirits, it does not matter where you were born. It is where you are going that counts. Like an Old Irish proverb: It is not what you came for, but what did you leave with. For an example, if your reading comes 7-7, Odi-Meji, you can read psalms 77 and asked and pray for guidance. This way, you will have a better understanding what has been said; the individual gains greater wisdom. Place your Spirit and Mind in order, for daily living, when following daily instructions, as given. Knowledge is given as a blessing or a curse, use it wisely

odi meji: Reviewing Reality W. E. A. van Beek, Philip M. Peek, 2013 From crab divination in the Cameroon to friction oracles in the Congo Basin, from reading cast objects in Mozambique to spirit possession in Cote d'Ivoire, from Sudanese ebony diviners to South African Xhosa healers, divination systems throughout Africa serve their communities by answering questions and resolving problems. Divination helps people chart a course in their lives through a deeper understanding of past and present. This important book reveals the extraordinary diversity and complexity of African divination systems, focusing on self-knowledge, social reality, and intercultural and historical relations. (Series: African Studies / Afrikanische Studien - Vol. 50)

odi meji: Isele Spirituality Workbook Ayele Kumari, 2020-06-23 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.

odi meji: The African Mask Janet Rupert, 2005-04 Twelve-year-old Layo, a Yoruba girl living in the area of eleventh-century Africa which is now Nigeria, attempts to reject the man who has been chosen to be her husband.

odi meji: Ritual Use of Plants in Lucumi' Tradition 3rd edition Maria Ogunbemi, 2015-09-16 The Ritual Use of Plants in Lucumi Tradition is an in depth look at the importance of plants for the Lucumi community. Explains why certain plants have hierarchical position and power for healing and why they are essential for the completion of Lucumi rituals. Includes translations of over thirty patakins, with the English, Spanish, Anago and Latin scientific names and sixteen black and white photos. A CD with color photos of over fifty plants is available at www.ogunbemi.com. The author, Maria Ogunbemi is a student of Lucumi tradition, Osainista and Oba Oriate. She has extensively researched the language and the ethno-botany of the Lucumi religion as it is practiced in Cuba and the diaspora. Her first book, The Anago Language of Cuba focused on the language used in Lucumi rituals for songs, prayers, rituals of consecration, initiation healing and celebration.

odi meji: NI OJO. Otiṣo ẹrin СтаВл Зосимов Премудрословски, 2019-12-28 Gbigba yii sọ nipa

igbesi aye awon felefele kekere ti olugbe ti olugbe alagbara, ti ko pe ati Russia ti o ni agbara. Sugbon awon eniyan ti ko ni ile Russia ko ni irewesi ati pe won wa ayọ ninu ohun gbogbo. Ko si iselu, aye ti o rorun nikan wa ti awon eniyan lailoriire. Won je emi ti Russia, agbaye ti o jora ati apakan ninu re ti sii si gbogbo eniyan. Ka ati gbadun, sugbon mase mu o. Iwe akọlẹ yii nife nipase Donald Trump...# Gbogbo awon eto wa ni ipamọ..

odi meji: Ifá Divination Bádé Àjàyí, 1996

odi meji: "Ecos de Sabiduría: Oríkis de Ifá en la Tradición Yoruba" Juan Martinez, En Ecos de Sabiduría, el lector se embarca en un viaje profundo a través de los Oríkis, los poemas y rituales sagrados que forman una parte esencial del sistema Ifá, una de las tradiciones espirituales más antiguas de África. Este libro ofrece una exploración detallada de los Oríkis, revelando su importancia en la práctica de Ifá y en la vida cotidiana de las comunidades yorubas. A través de... En Ecos de Sabiduría, el lector se embarca en un viaje profundo a través de los Oríkis, los poemas y rituales sagrados que forman una parte esencial del sistema Ifá, una de las tradiciones espirituales más antiguas de África. Este libro ofrece una exploración detallada de los Oríkis, revelando su importancia en la práctica de Ifá y en la vida cotidiana de las comunidades yorubas. A través de una cuidadosa investigación y análisis, el texto ilumina el significado simbólico y la función de estos poemas dentro de los rituales de adivinación y veneración. Además, proporciona una visión enriquecedora de cómo los Oríkis preservan y transmiten la sabiduría ancestral, los valores culturales y las historias míticas. Ideal para académicos, practicantes y cualquier persona interesada en la espiritualidad africana, Ecos de Sabiduría combina un enfoque académico con una narrativa accesible, haciendo que la riqueza y la belleza de los Oríkis sean comprensibles y apreciables para todos. La obra también incluye traducciones y comentarios que facilitan una comprensión más profunda de estos textos sagrados y su relevancia en el mundo contemporáneo.

odi meji: Diloggún Tales of the Natural World Ócha'ni Lele, 2011-09-21 Sacred myths from Santería centered on nature and the natural world • Includes more than 40 myths, stories, and histories from the Lucumí tradition • Reassembles the oral fragments from the African diaspora into coherent stories • Demonstrates that the African peoples, specifically the Yoruba, had deep philosophies and metaphysics involving nature and the natural world Since ancient times the Yoruba of West Africa created sacred stories--patakís--to make sense of the world around them. Upon arrival in the New World, the Yoruba religion began to incorporate elements from Catholic and Native traditions, evolving into Santería, and new patakís were born, adding to the many chapters already found in the odu of the diloggun--the sacred oral teachings and divination system of the Yoruba, or Lucumí, faith. Comparable to the myths of ancient Greece and Rome and rich with jewels of wisdom like the I Ching, these Santería stories are as vast as the Hindu Vedas and as culturally significant as the parables in the Torah, Talmud, and Christian Bible. Diloggun Tales of the Natural World presents more than 40 patakís that shed light upon the worldview of Santería. Each story in this collection, reassembled from the oral tradition of the African diaspora, is centered on a spiritual principle in nature: the waxing and waning of the moon, solar and lunar eclipses, the phenomenon of shooting stars, the separation of sky and earth, and the origins of the animals and birds who play key roles in Santería symbology. Revealing the metaphysics, theology, and philosophy of the Yoruba people, this volume shows these stories to be as powerful and relevant today as they were to the ancient Yoruba who once safeguarded them.

odi meji: Journal of the Royal African Society Royal African Society, 1963

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