

WHAT I KNOW ABOUT YORUBAS

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AFTERLIFE

- The Yoruba afterlife consists of reincarnation. The Yoruba version of reincarnation is quite different from that of the Indians. In the Yoruba mythology, you as a human reincarnate from your ancestors and into your descendants. You can get reincarnated as anybody that shares your ethnic group DNA. DNA is not just a physical code but like a keyhole that allows you to open doors in the next reincarnation. If you lack the proper key(DNA) you cannot get reincarnated as someone who doesn't share your family DNA sequence. This is why many Yoruba names point to the reincarnation of people but always through the extended family. Names like Babatunde(Transliteration:Father has returned),Yewande,Iyabo(Transliteration:Mother came back), Babajide etc reflect the notion that reincarnation is a family affair.
This is one of the major reasons ancestral veneration(Egungun) is important in Yoruba. You are not just talking to dead people; you're remembering and learning from your past. The Odu(Book) Ifa tells us that we will all reincarnate until every single being has reached enlightenment and that we are a communal species. When you don't understand this truth about reincarnation, you will not be bothered about improving the conditions of your clan or ethnic group because you probably think you would escape from it by joining another ethnic group. When you return to Earth in the same oppressed ethnic group, you complain despite the fact you did nothing to liberate your ethnic group. You must understand this cycle. Everybody gets reincarnated . We are all qualified despite our religious beliefs.
NOTE: These are not my words but the words of a Nairaland User named Vaxx who posted this on February 9,2018 around 2:08pm.

ANCESTRY

- Yorubas are not descendants of Cush or Nimrod in the Hebrew Bible. The myth that Yoruba are descendants of Nimrod was spread by Rev. Samuel Johnson(First Yoruba Historian) in his book titled "History Of Yorubas". Unfortunately, Majority of Yoruba Christians still believe this myth. Prominent Christian pastors like Reno Omokri still spread this myth nowadays.
- Yorubas never came from Saudi Arabia. The myth that Yorubas are from Saudi Arabia was formed by the Yoruba Muslims.
- Yorubas are not descendants of Oduduwa.
- Yorubas are not the Jebusites described in the Hebrew Bible. Surprisingly,the myth that Yorubas are Jebusites is still being spread by Reno Omokri who wrote an excellent book on fact checking.

MY SUGGESTION: Yorubas cannot be related to Hebrews or Saudi Arabians cause if we were, It is very possible we would have similar creation myths just like the creation myth of the Efe people and influence from the Hebrew creation myth taught by the colonial missionaries which we clearly don't have.

CREATION MYTH

- It is said that in the beginning water was everywhere and Olurun also known as Olodumare/Eledumare, the supreme being sent Obatala or Orishanla, down to create some land from the chaos. Obatala went down a chain and took a shell with some iron, and a rooster (some say a pigeon hen) in it. He put the iron in the waters, the earth on top of the iron, and the cock on top of the earth. The cock's scratching spread the land about, and when it was ready, some other lesser orishas came down to live there with Obatala. Chameleon came first to see that it was dry enough. When it was, Olurun named the earth Ife, meaning wide. Orishanla created humans out of earth and got Olurun to blow life into them. Then one day he got drunk and by mistake started making cripples, who are now sacred to him. Some say that Orishanla was jealous of Olurun and wanted to give life to humans, but Olurun put him to sleep while he was working so he saw nothing. They say, however, it is Orishanla who shapes babies in their mothers' wombs.

PROBLEMS

- The problems we are facing currently are part of the challenges we left unsolved in our previous lives while the good side continues with us unless we alter them according to the Yoruba mythology. One may ponder if one could solve all the challenges in one's previous life. Well, you can. You have the chance to select your destiny apart from race, gender and colour. Every challenge man faces is as a result of his handwork. It is your birthright to be happy, joyful and successful. Also, the memories and everything else in your previous life are still there in your brain, they are not removed but rather hidden and affects your current life.

NO CLASSIFICATION

- Esu, Obatala, Oya, Sango and the rest are not gods/deities, they are Orisha(s). The word Orisha is a part of the sentence Ori ti a sha (The head we specially chose). We venerate them to annex their energy, we do not worship them but offer them praises/eulogies. Hence, the Yoruba religion can be said to be monotheistic.
- Oluwa actually means The Lord of good characters/morals.
- Each persona has Ori, a soul-like personal spirit.