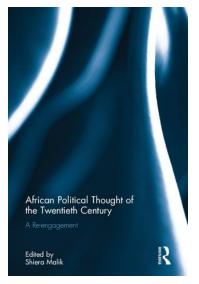
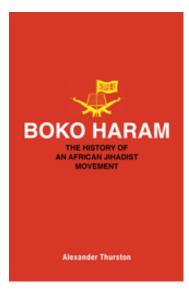
## **Relevant Books**



El-Malik, Shiera S., ed. *African Political Thought of the Twentieth Century: A Re-engagement*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2016, pp.96, ISBN: 9781138309401.

This book focuses on African political thought as it emerged in the context of and contributed to fundamental changes in world order during the twentieth century, and as it continues to speak to the present global condition. The six chapters form a set of close readings of 20th century African political theorists insofar as their work forms part of a conversation that Africa had with itself and with the rest of the world regarding freedom, independence, emancipation and statehood, as well as forming part of the larger global conversations. The essays analyses the ideas and practices of a number of prominent figures including Frantz Fanon, Leopold Senghor, Amílcar Cabral, Agostinho Neto, Julius Nyerere, Gabriel

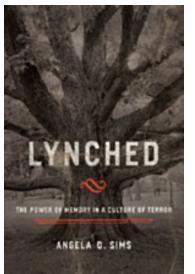
d'Arboussier, and Sembene Ousmane.



Thurston, Alexander. *Boko Haram: The History of an African Jihadist Movement*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2017, pp. 352, ISBN: 9780691172248.

Drawing on sources in Arabic and Hausa, rare documents, propaganda videos, press reports, and interviews with experts in Nigeria, Cameroon, and Niger, this book sheds light on Boko Haram's development to shows that far from being a simple or static terrorist organization, it has evolved in its worldview and ideology in reaction to events, such as its escalating war with the Nigerian state and civilian vigilantes. The book closely examines both the behavior and beliefs that are the keys to understanding Boko Haram; putting the group's violence in the context of the complex religious and political environment of Nigeria and the Lake Chad region to examine how Boko Haram relates to states,

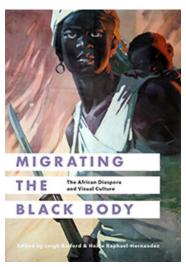
politicians, Salafis, Sufis, Muslim civilians, and Christians. And notwithstanding, the book probes Boko Haram's international connections, including its loose former ties to al-Qaida and its 2015 pledge of allegiance to ISIS. The book works to tell the full story of this West African affiliate of the Islamic State, from its beginnings in the early 2000s to its most infamous violence, including the 2014 kidnapping of 276 Nigerian schoolgirls.



Sims, Angela D. *Lynched: The Power of Memory in a Culture of Terror*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2016, pp.208, ISBN: 9781602582668.

This book chronicles the history and aftermath of lynching in America and examines the relationship between lynching and the interconnected realities of race, gender, class, and other social fragmentations that ultimately shape a person's—and a community's—religious self-understanding. Through this understanding, the author explores how the narrators reconcile their personal and communal memory of lynching with their lived Christian experience; and unearths the community's truth that this is sometimes a story of words and at other times a story of silence. In revealing the bond between memory and moral formation, the work discovers the courage and hope inherent in the power of

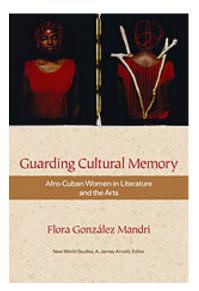
recall; and by tending to the words of witnesses, it exposes not only a culture of fear and violence but the practice of story and memory, as well as the narrative of hope within a renewed possibility for justice.



Raiford, Leigh and Heike Raphael-Hernandez, eds. *Migrating the Black Body: The African Diaspora and Visual Culture*. Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press, 2017, pp.392, ISBN: 9780295999579.

This volume explores how visual media-from painting to photography, from global independent cinema to Hollywood movies, from posters and broadsides to digital media, from public art to graphic novels-has shaped diasporic imaginings of the individual and collective self to understand how is the travel of Black people reflected in reciprocal images; how is blackness forged and remade through diasporic visual encounters and reimagined through revisitations with the past; and how do visual technologies structure the way we see African subjects and

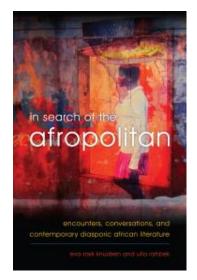
subjectivity? The first editor is an associate professor of African American Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, and the second is a is professor of English at the University of Maryland University College, Europe and a professor of American Studies at the University of Wurzburg, Germany.



Mandri, Flora González. Guarding Cultural Memory, Afro-Cuban Women in Literature and the Arts. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press, 2006, pp. 256, ISBN 9780813925257.

This book examines the post-Revolutionary creative endeavors of Afro-Cuban women by taking on the question of how African diaspora cultures practice remembrance to reveal how artists restage the confrontations between modernity and tradition in considering the work of the poet and cultural critic Nancy Morejón, the poet Excilia Saldaña, the filmmaker Gloria Rolando, and the artists María Magdalena Campos-Pons and Belkis Ayón who conflate the artistic, the historical, and the personal to produce a transformative image of Black women as a forger of Cuban culture as they redefine autobiography as a creative expression for the convergence of the domestic and the national; by countering

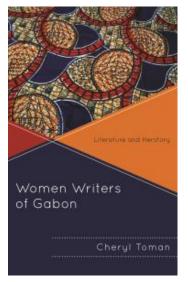
the eroticized image of the mulatta in favor of a mythical conception of the female body as a site for the engraving of cultural and national conflicts and resolutions; and by valorizing certain aesthetic and religious traditions in relation to a postmodern artistic sensibility. And furthermore, by placing these artists in their historical context, the author shows how their accomplishments were consistently silenced in official Cuban history and culture and it outlines the strategies through which culturally censored memories survived—and continue to survive—in a Caribbean country purported to have integrated its Hispanic and African peoples and heritages into a Cuban identity.



Knudsen, Eva Rask and Ulla Rahbek, eds. *In Search of the Afropolitan: Encounters, Conversations and Contemporary Diasporic African Literature*. London, UK: Rowman & Littlefield International, 2016, pp.326.

Against the background of an engaging evaluation of the heated debate on Afropolitanism and what constitutes an Afropolitan, this book turn to literature and its capacity to unfold African people as multidimensional through a detailed probing of the Afropolitan in literary narratives, the book enters into conversations about self-understanding and the signification of Africa in the contexts of global mobility. Hence, the book conceives of Afropolitanism as a flexible space of inquiry that curbs the inclination to set the definition of the 'ism' in stone, and instead, it attempts to distil, through close-up character analyses, a multifarious sense of what it

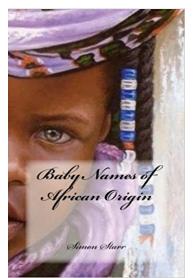
means to be Afropolitan in the contemporary moment. In that sense, the encounters come across in the literary narratives produce unexpected ontological negotiations on what it mean to be African in the world today.



Toman, Cheryl. Women Writers of Gabon: Literature and Herstory. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2016, pp.170. ISBN: 9781498537209.

This book demonstrates how the invisibility of women (historically, politically, cross-culturally, etc.) has led to the omission of Gabon's literature from the African canon, and discusses the unique elements of Gabonese women's writing that show it is worthy of critical recognition and prove why Gabonese women writers must be considered a major force in African literature. Hence, the book is a critical study of Gabonese literature that exists in English. Throughout the various chapters, the book explores, the contributions that are unique to Gabonese women writers such as: definitions of African feminisms as they pertain to Gabonese society, the rewriting of oral histories, rituals, and traditions of the

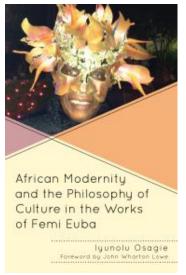
Fang ethnic group, one of the first introductions of same-sex couples in African Francophone literature, discussions on the impact of witchcraft on development, and the appropriating of the epic poetry known as the mvet by women writers. And notwithstanding, the book explore works by all major voices in Gabonese women's writing including Angèle Rawiri, Justine Mintsa, Sylvie Ntsame, Honorine Ngou, and Chantal Magalie Mbazoo-Kassa and concludes with brief introductions of a younger generation of Gabonese women writers such as Edna Merey-Apinda, Alice Endamne, Nadia Origo, Miryl Eteno, and Elisabeth Aworet, among others.



Starr, Simon. *Baby Names of African Origin*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2015, pp. 88, ISBN: 1517265541.

In this work, the author explains that the book was compiled in order to help the descendants of the wondrous continent of Africa to reconnect with their ancestral heritage and traditions; and to remind readers that Africa is not only the birthplace of humanity but also a place of complex customs, oral traditions and diverse peoples, and the home to several language families and hundreds of languages that can be divided into over a thousand different ethnic groups. And in a more detailed introduction the author argues that traditional African given names often reflect the circumstances at the time of birth, hence, names such as Mwanajuma "Friday", Esi "Sunday", Khamisi "Thursday", and Wekesa "harvest time" refer to

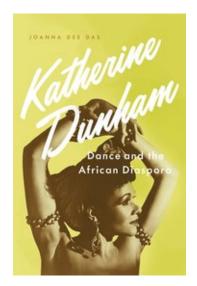
the time or day when the child was born while other names reflect the birth order of the newborn, for example Mosi "first born", Kunto "third born", Nsonowa "seventh born", and Wasswa "first of twins".



Osagie, Iyunolu. *African Modernity and the Philosophy of Culture in the Works of Femi Euba*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2017, pp.118, ISBN: 9781498545662.

This book is a contribution to the ongoing conversation on modernity, and thus, it uses the creative and critical works of Nigerian playwright and novelist Femi Euba to demonstrate the place and function of African cultures in modernity and makes the case for the vibrancy of such cultures in the shaping and constitution of the modern world. In addition to a critique of Euba's fifty-year artistic career, the book offers an account of Euba's formative relationship with the 1986 Nobel Prize for Literature winner Wole Soyinka, during the promising days of the Nigerian theatre in the immediate post-independence period, and the effect of this relationship on Euba's artistic choices and reflections. The volume

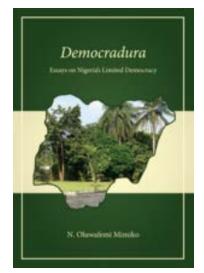
also suggests that it contributes to an understanding of Africa's negotiation of modernity, especially the reading of Esu, the Yoruba god of fate and chance, as an artistic consciousness whose historical and ideological mobility during New World slavery, during Africa's colonial period, and in the manifestations in the African diaspora today. And by using ritual, myth, and satire as avenues to the debate on modernity, the book lays emphasis on the transformative possibilities at the crossroads of history to engage the psychological interconnections between old gods and new worlds and the dialogic relationship between tradition and modernity. Delineating the philosophical and literary debates that reject an easy division between a stereotypically traditional Africa and a modern West, the author shows how Euba's plays and novel engage the entwined and intimate relationships between the modern and the traditional in contemporary Africa, and thereby she asserts the global resonance of Euba's African, and specifically Yoruba, conception of the world. The author is a professor of English and African Studies at Pennsylvania State University.



Das, Dee Joanna. *Katherine Dunham: Dance and the African Diaspora*. NY, New York: Oxford University Press, 2017, pp.353, ISBN: 0190264896.

This book makes the argument that Katherine Dunham was more than a dancer-she was an intellectual and activist committed to using dance to fight for racial justice because she saw dance as a tool of liberation, as a way for people of African descent to reclaim their history and forge a new future as she put her theories into motion not only through performance, but also through education, scholarship, travel, and choices about her own life. Hence, the author examines how Dunham struggled to balance artistic dreams, personal desires, economic needs, and political commitments in the face of racism and sexism. The book also analyzes Dunham's multiple spheres of engagement, assessing her dance performances

as a form of Black feminist protest while also presenting new material about her schools in New York and East St. Louis, her work in Haiti, and her network of interlocutors that included figures as diverse as ballet choreographer George Balanchine and Senegalese president Leopold Senghor. The book also traces Dunham's influence over the course of several decades from the New Negro Movement of the 1920s to the Black Power Movement of the late 1960s and beyond. The author is an assistant professor of dance at Washington University in St. Louis, MO, and a certified Dunham Technique instructor.



Mimiko, N. Oluwafemi. *Democradura: Essays on Nigeria's Limited Democracy*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2017, pp.450, ISBN: 9781611632705.

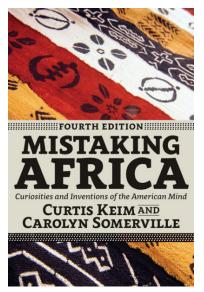
This book is a collection of articles penned by Professor Femi Mimiko, over a 30-year period. The broad theme is Nigeria's tortuous attempts at building democracy and laying the basis for nation-building and inclusive development, undertaken over the past 57 years of the country's relative political independence. Taken together, the 164 essays in the book traverse diverse issueareas, from education, through contestation for power by notoriously fractious ruling elite, to Nigeria's tentative engagement with the global system.



Bhatt, Purnima Mehta. *The African Diaspora in India: Assimilation, Change and Cultural Survivals*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2018, pp.176, ISBN: 9781138284869.

This book explores the understudied and often overlooked subject of African presence in India. It focuses on the so-called Sidis, Siddis or Habshis who occupy a unique place in Indian history. The Sidis comprise scattered communities of people of African descent who travelled and settled along the western coast of India, mainly in Gujarat, but also in Goa, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Sri Lanka and in Sindh (Pakistan) as a result of the Indian Ocean trade from the 13th to 19th centuries. Thus, the work draws from extant scholarly research and documentary sources to provide a comprehensive study of people of African descent in India and

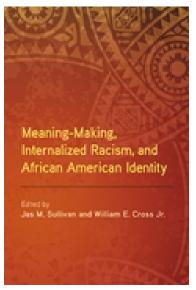
sheds new light on their experiences by employing an interdisciplinary approach across fields of history, art, anthropology, religion, literature and oral history; it provides an analysis of their negotiations with cultural resistance, survivals and collective memory.



Keim, Curtis and Carolyn Somerville. *Mistaking Africa: Curiosities and Inventions of the American Mind.* New York, NY: Westview Press, 2017, pp.248, ISBN: 9780813349831.

For many the mention of Africa immediately conjures up images of safaris, ferocious animals, strangely dressed "tribesmen," and impenetrable jungles. Although the occasional newspaper headline mentions authoritarian rule, corruption, genocide, devastating illnesses, or civil war in Africa, the collective American consciousness still carries strong mental images of Africa that are reflected in advertising, movies, amusement parks, cartoons, and many other corners of society. Few think to question these perceptions or how they came to be so deeply lodged in American minds. Thus, this book looks at the historical evolution of this mind-set and examines the role that popular media plays in its creation. The authors address the most

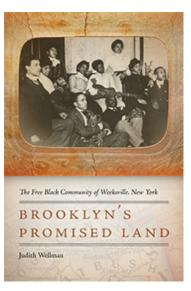
prevalent myths and preconceptions and demonstrate how these prevent a true understanding of the enormously diverse peoples and cultures of Africa. Updated throughout, this edition covers the entire continent and provides new analysis of topics such as social media and the Internet, the Ebola crisis, celebrity aid, and the Arab Spring.



Sullivan, Jas M. and William E. Cross, Jr., eds. *Meaning-Making, Internalized Racism, and African American Identity*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2017, pp.372, ISBN: 9781438462974.

Focusing on the broad range of attitudes Black people employ to make sense of their Blackness, this volume offers the latest research on racial identity. The first section explores meaning-making, or the importance of holding one type of racial-cultural identity as compared to another. It looks at a wide range of topics, including stereotypes, spirituality, appearance, gender and intersectionalities, masculinity, and more. The second section examines the different expressions of internalized racism that arise when the pressure of oppression is too great, and includes such topics as identity orientations, self-esteem, colorism, and linked fate. Grounded in psychology, the research presented here makes

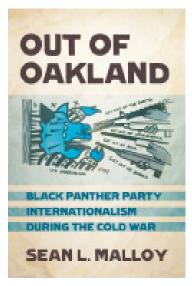
the case for understanding Black identity as wide ranging in content, subject to multiple interpretations, and linked to both positive mental health as well as varied forms of internalized racism.



Wellman, Judith. *Brooklyn's Promised Land: The Free Black Community of Weeksville, New York.* NY: New York University Press, 2017, pp. 320, ISBN: 9781479874477.

This book concerns Weeksville, an African American community that had become one of the largest free Black communities in nineteenth century United States that was virtually wiped out by Brooklyn's exploding population and expanding urban grid. Founded by African American entrepreneurs after holocaust of enslavement ended in New York State in 1827, located in eastern Brooklyn, it provided a space of physical safety, economic prosperity, education, and even political power for its Black population, who organized churches, a school, orphan asylum, home for the aged, newspapers, and the national African Civilization Society. In 1966 a group of students, Boy Scouts, and

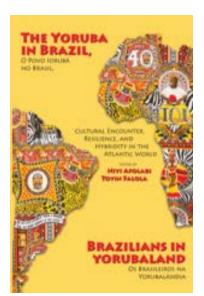
local citizens rediscovered all that remained of a then almost unknown community called Weeksville consisting of four frame houses on Hunterfly Road. Hence, the author tells the important narrative of Weeksville's growth, disappearance, and eventual rediscovery, but also highlights the stories of the people who created the community, drawing on maps, newspapers, census records, photographs, and the material culture of buildings and artifacts.



Malloy, Sean L. *Out of Oakland: Black Panther Party Internationalism During the Cold War*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2017, pp. 288, ISBN: 1501702394.

This volume explores the evolving internationalism of the Black Panther Party (BPP); the continuing exile of former members, including Assata Shakur, in Cuba is testament to the lasting nature of the international bonds that were forged during the Black Panther Party heyday. Thus, the author traces the shifting intersections between the Black freedom struggle in the United States, Third World anticolonialism, and the Cold War, and by the early 1970s, the Panthers had chapters across the United States as well as an international section headquartered in Algeria and support groups and emulators as far afield as England, India, New Zealand, Israel, and Sweden which served as an official embassy

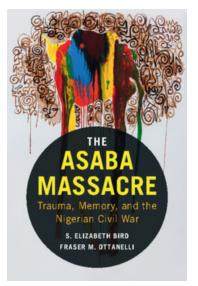
for the organization and a beacon for American revolutionaries abroad, attracting figures ranging from Black Power skyjackers to fugitive LSD guru Timothy Leary. Engaging directly with the expanding Cold War, Black Panther Party representatives cultivated alliances with the governments of Cuba, North Korea, China, North Vietnam, and the People's Republic of the Congo as well as European and Japanese militant groups and the Palestinian Liberation Organization.



Afolabi, Niyi and Toyin Falola, eds. *The Yoruba in Brazil, Brazilians in Yorubaland: Cultural Encounter, Resilience, and Hybridity in the Atlantic World.* Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2017, pp. 460, ISBN: 9781611635911.

This volume focuses on multivalent manifestations of a hybridized Yoruba Atlantic identity. Unique in its examination of an African ethnic group that was implicated in the transatlantic enslavement enterprise and that subsequently made the diaspora home (or through other forms of migration returned to the continental "homeland"), and argues that despite traumatic encounter with modernity and resilience, the Yoruba Atlantic may be under erasure due to the exigencies of globalization. And second, the book contends that through colonialism and slavery, historical realities are appropriately anchored in the quest for a Yoruba diaspora, and yet are compounded by the new, shifting migration

patterns out of the Yorubaland in the search for greener pastures in a globalized world. Hence, the contributors assert the vitality and unity of this group while complicating those same essences through multiple crossroads of shifting historical, cultural, political, and spiritual agencies.



Bird, S. Elizabeth and Fraser M. Ottanelli. *The Asaba Massacre: Trauma, Memory, and the Nigerian Civil War.* New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, 2017, ISBN: 9781316506165.

In October 1967, early in the Nigerian Civil War, government troops entered Asaba in pursuit of the retreating Biafran army, slaughtering thousands of civilians and leaving the town in ruins. News of the atrocity was suppressed by the Nigerian government, with the complicity of Britain, and its significance in the subsequent progress of that conflict was misunderstood. Drawing on archival sources on both sides of the Atlantic and interviews with survivors of the killing, pillaging and rape, as well as with high-ranking Nigerian military and political leaders, the book: (1) offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of trauma, memory and war, producing a robust and comprehensive study of

the massacre for those from multiple backgrounds and disciplines; (2) provides a new interpretation of the development and history of the Nigerian Civil War, focusing on the lived experiences of survivors, for those interested in Nigeria's first major post-colonial conflict; and (3) Describes and analyses the long term impact of the massacre on survivors, for readers interested in memory construction as social justice and the lasting effects of injustice.