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Essays in African Philosophy, Thought & Theology
The Supreme God as Stranger in Igbo Religious Thought
Consecration in Igbo Traditional Religion
Christian Theology and African Heritage
Christianity and the Igbo Rites of Passage
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interface between igbo theology and christianity is a timely book that provides new scholarly thinking concerning the convergence of christianity and igbo traditional religion taking place in the igbo culture area this book a fruit of multidisciplinary conversation among igbo scholars and igbophiles offers concepts themes issues and case studies with deep ethnographic details some of which do not exist anywhere else in print it is a major statement of how modern igbo scholars social scientists philosophers theologians liturgists and active pastors and parish priests understand the intersection of igbo traditional religion and christianity in postcolonial nigeria the editors and authors of the chapters of this book draw from their wealth of experience to offer to students scholars researchers community based organizations and ngos and practitioners in interfaith dialogue a must have manual to engage in and develop mutual respect and trust among christian denominations and between them and igbo traditional religion this book will serve as a blueprint for a deep dialogue among the igbo in both city and rural settings in the context of clan and community life context and in the christian parish setting the book will certainly appeal to numerous communities in africa wishing to share similar local experiences and collective memories but which do not have the channels to talk about themselves in scholarly writing

for not integrating initially some of the good elements in igbo culture many igbo christians have double personality christian personality and traditional personality they are christians on sundays but traditionalists on weekdays to combat such an anomalous situation in imitation of christ s effort at completing what was lacking in the jewish religion author edwin udoe proposes radical inculturation his book equally contains many serious theological reflections such that it recommends itself to both theologians and the scholars researching on the religions of the world udoe has therefore made a very significant contribution worthy of commendation to both theological and religious studies

it is not always a comfortable position to question the position of a good majority however it is known that the majority can sometimes be wrong or see things differently it takes courage and a particularly critical mind to question the depth of the christian faith in a land seen as the future of christianity in africa as a priest with some pastoral experience both in africa and in europe the author is at home with the subject matter in this book he accepts the fact of the growing numbers in the churches but questions the depth of conviction in the face of the problems arising from the clash of values between christian faith and igbo traditional religion he maintains that if god saw enough reasons to create men differently and revealed himself differently to them he god accepts that men have different understandings of his relationship with them and that they may relate with him using what is available to them their culture and tradition

this book is motivated by the positive view of the non christian religions expressed by the fathers of the vatican council ii cf na 2a a revolutionary view considered from the official teaching of the tradition of the church up till then and much more in such a central issue as the belief in god this book aims at initiating a healthy interaction between the christian understanding of god and the understanding of god in the traditional religion of the igbo people of west africa in approaching this task this special study pursues some major aims in the first place it engages itself in the clarification of some basic issues are the religious experiences which are phenomenologically found in all religions including the igbo religion only mere human fabrications or do they originate from a revelation of god secondly this publication working with the innovative analysis of the theophoral personal names provides some profound factual information about the concrete contents of the igbo religion on god thirdly the author tries to find out whether there could be a basic agreement between the understanding of god in igbo religion and the biblical revelation in this work the fundamental agreement is found in the conviction that god in traditional igbo religion chukwu and the god of the bible is the god of life the purpose of this book therefore is to bring back the question of god to the centre of existential christian life it is to make the theme of god the motivation and criterion for the whole christian life and spirituality both individually and communally the theme of the god of life introduces god into life and connects the problems and questions of men and women of today to the theme of god

an inclusive and innovative account of religious ethical thinking and acting in the world rather than merely applying existing forms of philosophical ethics religious ethics defines the meaning of the field and presents a distinct and original method for ethical reflection through comparisons of world religious traditions written by leading scholars and educators in the field this unique volume offers an innovative approach that reveals how religions concur and differ on moral matters and provides practical guidance on thinking and living ethically the book s innovative method integrating descriptive normative practical fundamental and metaethical dimensions of reflection enables a far more complex and nuanced exploration of religious ethics than any single philosophical language method or theory can equal first introducing the task of religious ethics the book moves through each of the five dimensions of reflection to compare concepts such as good and evil perplexity and wisdom truth and illusion and freedom and bondage in various theological contexts guides readers on understanding assessing and comparing the moral teachings and practices of world religions applies a disciplined scholarly approach to the subject of religious ethics explores the distinctions between religious ethics and moral philosophy provides a methodology which can be applied to comparative ethics for various religions compares religious traditions to illuminate each of the five dimensions of ethical and moral reflection religious ethics meaning and method will help anyone interested in the relation between religion and ethics in the modern world including those involved in general and comparative religion studies religious and comparative ethics and moral theory

this fundamental theological study is innovative eye opening and interdisciplinary in orientation the book makes a constructive contribution to the debate on both tillich s theology of culture and african contextual theology it reconstructs tillich s theology of culture in an original manner and contemporaneously helps readers understand the religious cultural thought of the igbo especially with regard to the idea of the supreme being

the agwu is the igbo patron deity of health and divination and one of the basic igbo theological concepts employed to explain good and evil health and sickness wealth and poverty and fortune and misfortune belief in the agwu was widespread in the past most communities had some agwu people who were considered victims of its malignant powers or recipients of its positive influences such as priest diviners and physicians this books analyses this belief system in past and present times and posits the view that it still exists but to a lesser degree or in a modified form the author conducted his research through personal interviews and observer participant methods themes range from beliefs about the agwu deity through the rites and initiation into agwu cult to the guild of diviners and traditional healers the six chapters cover supernaturalism and disease causation the anthropocentricity of agwu art and symbol in the agwu cult the rites of dibia initiation significance and consequences of dibia initiation and agwu therapeutic forces in a time perspective

owing to their value and strategic importance in the people s mentality and culture this work proposes the igbo rites of passage as a necessary parameter and a transmitting wave length for a firm rooting of the christian faith among the igbos

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