

African religion - the moral traditions of abundant life

Paulines Publications Africa - **MAGESA, Laurent**, **African Religion: The Moral Traditions of Abundant Life**, Maryknoll, New York, Orbis, 1997. xvi + 296 pp, *Journal of Religion in Africa*



Description: -

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Africa -- Religious life and customs

Religion and culture -- Africa

Christian ethics -- Africa

Ethics -- Catholic authors African religion - the moral traditions of abundant life

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Notes: Includes bibliographical references and index.

This edition was published in 1998



Filesize: 49.69 MB

Tags: #9781570751059

African religion : the moral traditions of abundant life (Book, 1998) [mikhmon.us.to]

See especially, Laurenti Magesa, *African Religion: The Moral Traditions of Abundant Life*, Nairobi, Pauline Publications Africa, 1998; Martin Nkafu Nkemnkia, *African Vitality: A Step Forward in African Thinking*, Nairobi: Pauline Publications Africa, 1999 1.

9781570751059

Some kill an ox at the burial to accompany the deceased.

The Essence of African Traditional Religion

God is also conceived as merciful, kind and as the comforter. In southern Africa the period of strict mourning usually continues for at least a week after the funeral. Description: Maryknoll MY: Orbis Books, 1997.

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These burial and mourning customs suggest that many practices still prevailing in African Christian funerals are vestiges of the ancestor cult, especially the ritual killings and the home-bringing rites. In other words, he shows that the sense of the divine was not something introduced to Africa by missionaries or by anyone else; that the knowledge of God in African religion was not much different from the idea of God that Christian missionaries preached in Africa; and, more specifically to our purpose here, that belief in God engendered a moral response that for centuries before Christian arrival in Africa directed moral life and interaction on the continent and among its peoples. Their prayer recognizes the working of the Supreme being in nature.

African Religion: The Moral Traditions of Abundant Life by Laurenti Magesa

Moral culpability is always on the shoulders of humanity. In some societies, the concept of theocracy does exist.

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