

The Untold Story: Nigeria, The Jewish Dominated Nation

The mention of Nigeria often brings to mind images of a vibrant and diverse country with a rich cultural heritage. However, there is an intriguing aspect of Nigerian history that remains largely underexplored - its deep-rooted Jewish connections. In this article, we delve into the hidden narratives and fascinating evidence that suggest Nigeria has a significant Jewish influence.

Jewish Presence in Nigeria

Contrary to popular belief, Nigeria is not just a country with a Christian and Muslim population. Evidence points to the presence of Jewish communities in Nigeria for centuries. Historical records indicate that Jewish migration to Nigeria dates back to ancient times, with some tracing the origins to the lost tribes of Israel.

The Igbo people, one of Nigeria's largest ethnic groups, have a long-standing belief in their Israelite lineage. Their customs, traditions, and oral histories bear striking similarities to Jewish practices. For instance, the Igbo observe kosher-like dietary laws, circumcision, and keep a day of rest similar to the Jewish Sabbath.



NIGERIA: THE JEWISH DOMINATED NATION

by Richard R. Beeman (Kindle Edition)

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The Igbo-Jewish Connection

The Igbo-Jewish connection is particularly intriguing. It is believed that during the transatlantic slave trade, some Igbo people were taken to the Americas, where they encountered Jewish communities. This encounter led to a fusion of Igbo and Jewish traditions, creating a unique syncretic culture known as "Igbo-Jewish."

The Igbo-Jewish community has flourished in recent years, with various organizations actively promoting their Jewish heritage. Synagogues have been established in Nigerian cities, Jewish education programs have been implemented, and connections with the global Jewish community have been fostered.

Symbolism and Rituals

One of the most compelling aspects of Nigeria's Jewish connection can be seen in its symbolism and rituals. For example, the Igbo Ukwu Bronze artifacts, dating back to the 9th century, depict Jewish symbols such as the menorah, shofar, and etrog. Additionally, the Nri Kingdom, an ancient Igbo community, had a symbolic king known as "Eze Nri" who wore a headpiece resembling the Jewish High Priest's mitre.

Furthermore, the Igala people, an ethnic group in Nigeria, have a unique ritual known as the "Ohu Oba." During this ritual, men dress in white linen cloths and use calabashes and branches, similar to Jewish traditions during Sukkot.

Ancestral DNA and Genetics

In recent years, advancements in genetic testing have shed light on the possible Jewish ancestry of some Nigerians. Studies have shown genetic similarities between Jewish communities and certain Nigerian populations, providing further evidence of a historical connection.

Genetic research has revealed the presence of the Cohen Modal Haplotype (CMH), a signature genetic marker associated with Jewish ancestry, in some Nigerian groups. This finding supports the long-standing belief of Igbo people in their Israelite lineage.

The Jewish Future of Nigeria

As awareness grows regarding Nigeria's Jewish heritage, questions arise about the future of this unique cultural phenomenon. Will the Jewish traditions continue to blossom and gain wider recognition? Can Nigeria become a melting pot of diverse Jewish customs, beliefs, and practices?

While the challenges are significant, the increasing efforts to preserve and promote the Jewish heritage in Nigeria are promising. Opportunities for cultural exchange and dialogue between Jewish and Igbo communities are steadily growing, creating a platform for shared learning and understanding.

Nigeria, the Jewish dominated nation, offers a fascinating glimpse into a lesser-known aspect of its cultural tapestry. The Jewish connections can be seen through historical records, symbolism, rituals, ancestral DNA, and the vibrant Igbo-Jewish community. Exploring and celebrating these Jewish influences enriches our understanding of Nigeria's diverse heritage and highlights the importance of embracing and preserving cultural pluralism.

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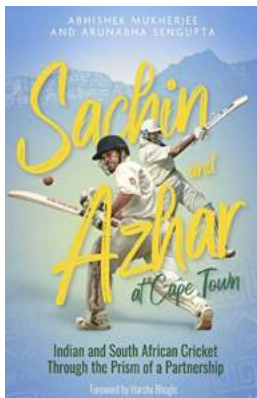


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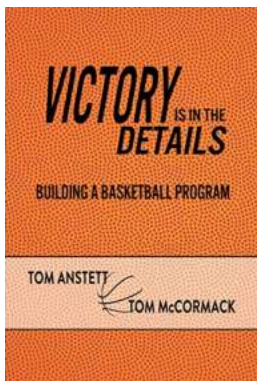
The question of origins of many African peoples and in particular the majority of Nigerians have been in doubt. The Yoruba, Igala, Idoma, Igbo claim decent from Middle East or Yemen. Others do claim their origin from Egypt and Ethiopia or Congo. Historically, most of our languages here are that of the Kwa group of Congo basin. The Igbo all along do believe and openly proclaim that they are of Jewish origin from the lineage of Gad whose one of his sons was Eri. That linkage still needs further proof and evaluation to convince everybody. This knowledge of our roots will help us to live a life worthy of our existence as grand and great grandchildren of our forefathers. This knowledge is borne in the minds of a group of people that do carry out such acts like massacre or ethnic cleansing against their fellow countrymen or neighbors, because they believe that the other groups are not from their race. Then, follow me as we go into tracing the origin of Igala, Idoma, Igbo, Jukuns (Apa) Yoruba and southern people of Nigeria linked to Jewish people of Israel. Please permit me to state here that, the inspiration to write this book came when at the Glory Dome; Dr. Paul Enenche read from the book of Micah 5: 2 “But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Where I heard about Bethlehem-Ephrattah for the 1st time that made any meaning to me..

Another time he read from the Bible, when again I heard about Idumea. Yet again was another occasion at the Glory Dome where he, the Senior Pastor Dr. Paul Enenche started asking the congregation how they call 'Satan' in their various languages. And the congregation gave different names of Satan in their tongues while Idoma, Igala call Satan 'Ebili' and that is same in Spanish language, and it is "Ibliss" in Arab language. That broadened my thoughts on the fair universality of Igala-Idoma languages.



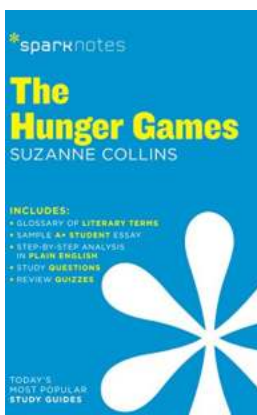
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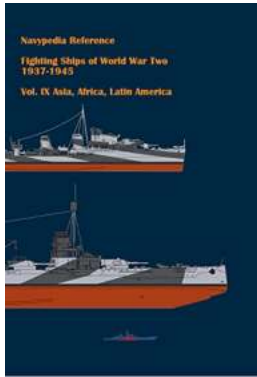
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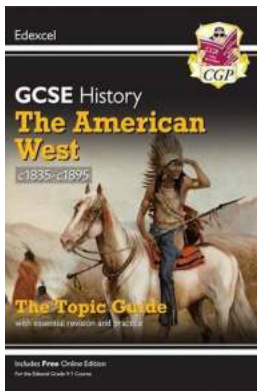
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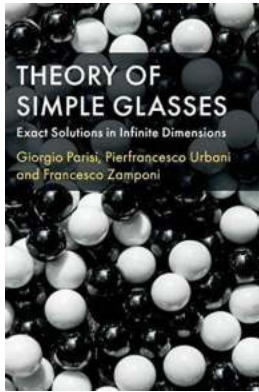
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