Patterns of thought

in Africa and the West

Essays on magic, religion and science

Robin Horton

Randee Ijatuyi-Morphé

Patterns of Thought in Africa and the West Robin Horton, 1997-07-13 Robin Horton's critical and creative writings on African religious thought have influenced anthropologists philosophers and all those interested in the comparative study of religion and thought This selection of some of his classic papers with a new introduction and postscript by the author traces Horton's theoretical ideas over thirty years In attempting to understand African religious thought he also tackles broader issues in the history and sociology of thought such as secularisation and modernisation Part I is a critical assessment of two established interpretive approaches the Symbolist and the Theological Part II proposes an alternative Intellectualist approach that emphasises the structural and processual similarities between religious and scientific thinking The postscript appraises the Intellectualist approach in the light of theorising about religion and world views **A Short History of African Philosophy, Second Edition** Barry Hallen, 2009-09-03 A Short History of African Philosophy discusses major ideas figures and schools of thought in philosophy in the African context While drawing out critical issues in the formation of African philosophy Barry Hallen focuses on recent scholarship and relevant debates that have made African philosophy critical to understanding the rich and complex cultural heritage of the continent This revised edition expands the historical perspective takes account of recent discoveries and new canonical figures highlights new discussions about gender as a cultural and philosophical phenomenon clarifies issues regarding indigenous cultures and human rights and builds on the notion that African philosophy shares methods and concerns of philosophy worldwide This short reference is an essential resource for students scholars and general readers Science and Religion Around the World John Hedley Brooke, Ronald L. Numbers, 2011-01-11 The past quarter century has seen an explosion of interest in the history of science and religion But all too often the scholars writing it have focused their attention almost exclusively on the Christian experience with only passing reference to other traditions of both science and faith At a time when religious ignorance and misunderstanding have lethal consequences such provincialism must be avoided and in this pioneering effort to explore the historical relations of what we now call science and religion the authors go beyond the Abrahamic traditions to examine the way nature has been understood and manipulated in regions as diverse as ancient China India and sub Saharan Africa Science and Religion around the World also provides authoritative discussions of science in Judaism Christianity and Islam as well as an exploration of the relationship between science and the loss of religious beliefs The narratives included in this book demonstrate the value of plural perspectives and of the importance of location for the construction and perception of science A Companion to African Philosophy Kwasi Wiredu, 2008-04-15 This volume of newly commissioned religion relations essays provides comprehensive coverage of African philosophy ranging across disciplines and throughout the ages Offers a distinctive historical treatment of African philosophy Covers all the main branches of philosophy as addressed in the African tradition Includes accounts of pre colonial African philosophy and contemporary political thought Forms of Fanonism

Reiland Rabaka, 2010-03-08 When Frantz Fanon's critiques of racism sexism colonialism capitalism and humanism are brought into the ever widening orbit of Africana critical theory something unprecedented in the annals of Africana intellectual history happens five distinct forms of Fanonism emerge Forms of Fanonism Frantz Fanon's Critical Theory and the Dialectics of Decolonization is discursively distinguished from other engagements of Fanon's thought and texts insofar as it is the first study to consciously examine his contributions to Africana Studies and critical theory or rather the Africana tradition of critical theory Forms of Fanonism identifies and intensely analyzes Fanon's contributions to the deconstruction and reconstruction of Africana Studies radical politics and critical social theory. In highlighting his unique solutions to the problems of racism sexism colonialism capitalism and humanism five distinct forms of Fanonism materialize These five forms of Fanonism allow contemporary critical theorists to innovatively explore the ways in which his thought and texts can be dialectically put to use in relieving the wretched experience of this generation's wretched of the earth Critics can also apply these forms to deconstruct and reconstruct Africana Studies radical politics and critical social theory using their anti imperialist interests Throughout Forms of Fanonism Reiland Rabaka critically dialogues with Fanon incessantly asking his corpus critical questions and seeking from it crucial answers This book in short solemnly keeps with Fanon's own predilection for connecting critical theory to revolutionary praxis by utilizing his thought and texts as paradigms and points of departure to deepen and develop the Africana tradition of critical theory Philosophy and the Study of Religions Kevin Schilbrack, 2014-03-03 Philosophy and the Study of Religions A Manifesto advocates a radical transformation of the discipline from its current narrow focus on questions of God to a fully global form of critical reflection on religions in all their variety and dimensions Opens the discipline of philosophy of religion to the religious diversity that characterizes the world today Builds bridges between philosophy of religion and the other interpretative and explanatory approaches in the field of religious studies Provides a manifesto for a global approach to the subject that is a practice centred rather than a belief centred activity Gives attention to reflexive critical studies of religion as socially constructed and historically located

Religions in the Modern World Linda Woodhead, Christopher Partridge, Hiroko Kawanami, 2016-01-13 Religions in the Modern World Traditions and Transformations Third Edition is the ideal textbook for those coming to the study of religion for the first time as well as for those who wish to keep up to date with the latest perspectives in the field This third edition contains new and upgraded pedagogic features including chapter summaries key terms and definitions and questions for reflection and discussion The first part of the book considers the history and modern practices of the main religious traditions of the world while the second analyzes trends from secularization to the rise of new spiritualities Comprehensive and fully international in coverage it is accessibly written by practicing and specialist teachers Religious Encounter and the Making of the Yoruba John David Yeadon Peel, J. D. Y. Peel, 2003-02-21 Peel is by training an anthropologist but one possessed of an acute historical sensibility Indeed this magnificent book achieves a degree of analytical verve rare in

either discipline History Today T his is scholarship of the highest quality Peel lifts the Yoruba past to a dimension of comparative seriousness that no one else has managed The book teems with ideas about big and compelling matters of very wide interest T C McCaskie In this magisterial book J D Y Peel contends that it is through their encounter with Christian missions in the mid 19th century that the Yoruba came to know themselves as a distinctive people Peel s detailed study of the encounter is based on the rich archives of the Anglican Church Missionary Society which contain the journals written by the African agents of mission who as the first generation of literate Yoruba played a key role in shaping modern Yoruba consciousness This distinguished book pays special attention to the experiences of ordinary men and women and shows how the process of Christian conversion transformed Christianity into something more deeply Yoruba The Centrality of **Christ in Contemporary Missions** Mike Barnett, Michael Pocock, 2005 Africa's Social and Religious Ouest Randee Ijatuyi-Morphé, 2014-01-30 This well crafted book probes the key dimensions of Africa's existential predicament It constitutes an intellectual response to a gnawing African situation the starting point for grasping Africa's social and religious quest Beyond split explanations of external versus internal factors e g colonization slavery vs leadership cultural values this study accounts more comprehensively for emergent issues shaping this situation. The situation reflects a gamut of problems in traditional African religion and material culture which hitherto defines African communality polities and destinies vis vis the cosmos and nature Thus African religion and communities each with its own attendant values do not operate by critical engagement with larger issues of society and civilization especially those shaped by the advent of post modernity Rather they operate via adaptation The communal drive for natural and social harmony inevitably produces a preservationist view of culture leaving things as they are This study takes an integrative approach to religion society and civilization eschews dichotomies and broadly defines and re signifies life and wholeness as a true end of Africans quest today

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