

ANTHROPOLOGY

Revelation and Divination  
in Ndembu Ritual  
VICTOR TURNER

Drawing on two and a half years of field work, Victor Turner offers two thorough ethnographic studies of Ndembu revelatory ritual and divinatory techniques, with running commentaries on symbolism by a variety of Ndembu informants. Although previously published, these essays have not been readily available since their appearance more than a dozen years ago. Giving a personal note in a new introductory chapter, Professor Turner acknowledges his indebtedness to Ndembu rituals for starting him to the theoretical relevance of symbols action in understanding human societies. He believes that ritual symbols, like Totemist claims, enable us to detect and trace the movement of social processes and relationships that often lie below the level of direct observation.

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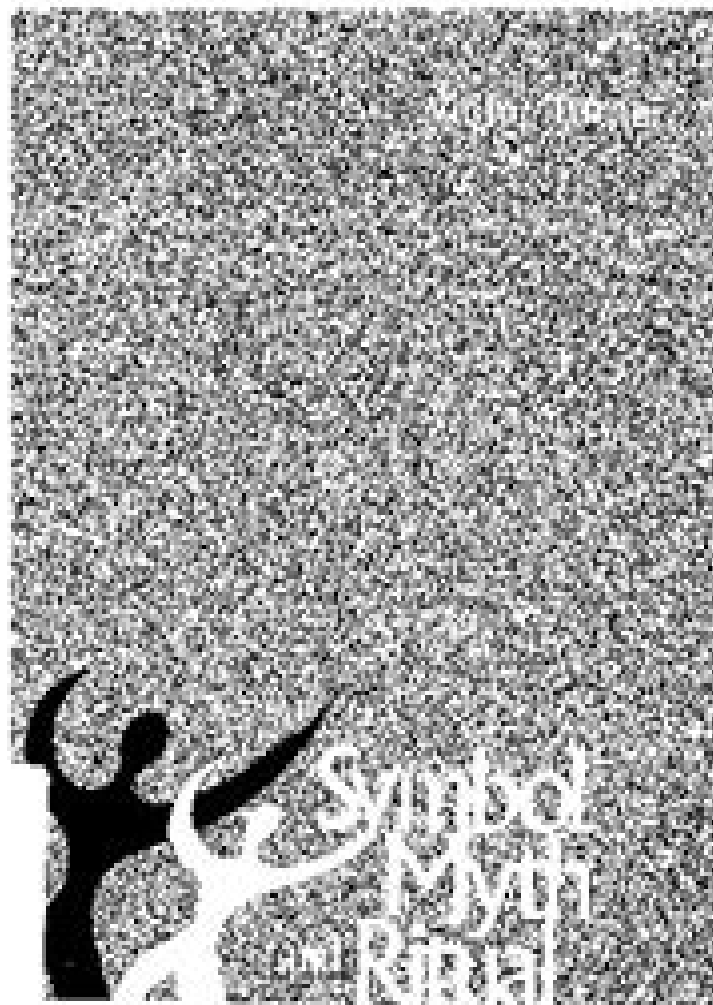
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## Revelation and Divination in Ndembu Ritual



# Revelation Divination In Ndembu Ritual

**Lei Huang**



## **Revelation Divination In Ndembu Ritual:**

**Revelation and Divination in Ndembu Ritual** Victor Turner, 2018-05-31 Drawing on two and a half years of field work Victor Turner offers two thorough ethnographic studies of Ndembu revelatory ritual and divinatory techniques with running commentaries on symbolism by a variety of Ndembu informants Although previously published these essays have not been readily available since their appearance more than a dozen years ago Striking a personal note in a new introductory chapter Professor Turner acknowledges his indebtedness to Ndembu ritualists for alerting him to the theoretical relevance of symbolic action in understanding human societies He believes that ritual symbols like botanists stains enable us to detect and trace the movement of social processes and relationships that often lie below the level of direct observation **Revelation and Divination in Ndembu Ritual** Victor Witter Turner, 1975 Drawing on two and a half years of field work Victor Turner offers two thorough ethnographic studies of Ndembu revelatory ritual and divinatory techniques with running commentaries on symbolism by a variety of Ndembu informants Although previously published these essays have not been readily available since their appearance more than a dozen years ago Striking a personal note in a new introductory chapter Professor Turner acknowledges his indebtedness to Ndembu ritualists for alerting him to the theoretical relevance of symbolic action in understanding human societies He believes that ritual symbols like botanists stains enable us to detect and trace the movement of social processes and relationships that often lie below the level of direct observation **Revelation and Divination in Ndembu Ritual** Victor Turner, 1975 **Ritual Passage, Sacred Journey** Richard P. Werbner, 1989

**Theoretical Explorations in African Religion** Wim van Binsbergen, Matthew Schoffeleers, 2013-10-28 First published in 1985 This collection of papers on theoretical and methodological perspectives in the study of African religion is the outcome of a conference which the editors were asked to convene on behalf of the African Studies Centre Leiden in December 1979 **Recreating Africa** James H. Sweet, 2004-07-21 Exploring the cultural lives of African slaves in the early colonial Portuguese world with an emphasis on the more than one million Central Africans who survived the journey to Brazil James Sweet lifts a curtain on their lives as Africans rather than as incipient Brazilians Focusing first on the cultures of Central Africa from which the slaves came Ndembu Imbangala Kongo and others Sweet identifies specific cultural rites and beliefs that survived their transplantation to the African Portuguese diaspora arguing that they did not give way to immediate creolization in the New World but remained distinctly African for some time Slaves transferred many cultural practices from their homelands to Brazil including kinship structures divination rituals judicial ordeals ritual burials dietary restrictions and secret societies Sweet demonstrates that the structures of many of these practices remained constant during this early period although the meanings of the rituals were often transformed as slaves coped with their new environment and status Religious rituals in particular became potent forms of protest against the institution of slavery and its hardships In addition Sweet examines how certain African beliefs and customs challenged and ultimately influenced Brazilian Catholicism Sweet s

analysis sheds new light on African culture in Brazil's slave society while also enriching our understanding of the complex process of creolization and cultural survival

### **Physiognomy in Ming China: Fortune and the Body Xing**

Wang, 2020-03-23 In *Physiognomy in Ming China: Fortune and the Body Xing* Wang investigates the intellectual and technical contexts in which the knowledge of physiognomy *xiangshu* was produced and transformed in Ming China 1368-1644 C.E. Known as a fortune telling technique via examining the human body and material objects Xing Wang shows how the construction of the physiognomic body in many Ming texts represent a unique unprecedented somatic cosmology. Applying an anthropological reading to these texts and providing detailed analysis of this technique the author proves that this physiognomic cosmology in Ming China emerged as a part of a new body discourse which differs from the modern scholarly discourse on the body

*African Religion* Laurenti Magesa, 2014-07-30 Describes the moral teachings, values, norms and principles to follow so that life might be abundant for all of the African religion as it relates to individuals and community

Kalonga Gawa Undi X Walima Tuesday Kalusa, Mapopa Mtonga, 2010 This study reconstructs the life history of Paramount Chief Kalonga Gawa Undi X of the Chewa speaking people of Zambia's Eastern Province. Born in 1931 he played a key role in the nationalist movement in Zambia formerly Northern Rhodesia in the late 1950s and early 1960s and participated in the constitutional talks in England at the height of the struggle for political freedom. Throughout his life he successfully fought to preserve the power and authority of traditional leaders thereby confounding attempts by both colonial governments and African urban elites to undermine chiefly prerogative and power. With this study the author asks us to rethink the standard historical accounts of the role of traditional leaders in African independence

Religion, Philosophy and Knowledge Gregory W. Dawes, 2016-11-07 This book offers a philosophical approach to religion that acknowledges both the diversity of religions and the many and varied dimensions of the religious life. Rather than restricting itself to Christian theism it covers a wide range of religious traditions examining their beliefs in the context of the actual practice of the religious life. After outlining the aims of religion the book focuses on claims to knowledge. What kinds of knowledge do religions purport to offer? In what idiom is it couched? From what sources do devotees draw their claims to knowledge? Are these sources reliable? Rather than trying to settle age-old questions about religious belief the book offers its readers a set of criteria with which they can make informed decisions in matters of faith

### **The Routledge Dictionary of Anthropologists**

Gerald Gaillard, 2004-06 This detailed and comprehensive guide provides biographical information on the most influential and significant figures in world anthropology from the birth of the discipline in the nineteenth century to the present day. Each of the fifteen chapters focuses on a national tradition or school of thought outlining its central features and placing the anthropologists within their intellectual contexts. Fully indexed and cross-referenced *The Routledge Dictionary of Anthropologists* will prove indispensable for students of anthropology

**African Voices, African Lives** Pat Caplan, 2003-09-02 *African Voices, African Lives* explores the world of Mohammed a Swahili peasant living on Mafia Island, Tanzania. Through his own words, some written, some spoken

and those of his relatives including his ex wife and one of his daughters he enables us to see the world through his eyes including the invisible world of spirits which plays a significant role in his life This information is gathered by Pat Caplan the anthropologist over almost three decades of talking and writing to each other She acts not only as translator and editor but also as interpreter bringing in her own knowledge gathered from field data as well as comparative material from other anthropological work By utilising a mixture of styles narrative and life history ethnographic observation and the diary kept by Mohammed at the anthropologist's bequest *African Voices African Lives* will make an important contribution to current debates in anthropology by grappling with issues raised by personal narratives authorial authority and with reflexivity The Pursuit of Certainty Wendy James, 2003-12-16 An exploration of the effect of anthropology's inherited tradition of tolerance and cross cultural understanding has on the new pursuits of truth *Religion and Development in Southern and Central Africa: Vol 2* Amanze, James N., Masango, Maake, 2020-01-19 This book is a result of a joint conference which was held from 18th-22nd July 2017 under the theme Religion Citizenship and Development Southern African Perspectives The theme of the conference was adopted in order to underline the importance and significance of religion in the socio economic development of people in the world generally and in Southern and Central Africa in particular The papers in the book are divided into two volumes Volume one consists of papers which directly discuss religion and development in one form or another The second volume contains papers that discuss religion and other pertinent issues related to development The papers are grouped into sub themes for ease of reference These include Citizenship and Development Migration and Development Disability and Development Pentecostal Churches and Development and Religion and Society All in all despite a divergence of sub themes in volume two all point to issues to do with the role of religion in development in Southern and Central Africa today *The Rite of Urban Passage* Reza Masoudi, 2018-08-17 The Iranian city experienced a major transformation when the Pahlavi Dynasty initiated a project of modernization in the 1920s The Rite of Urban Passage investigates this process by focusing on the spatial dynamics of Muharram processions a ritual that commemorates the tragic massacre of Hussein and his companions in 680 CE In doing so this volume offers not only an alternative approach to understanding the process of urban transformation but also a spatial genealogy of Muharram rituals that provides a platform for developing a fresh spatial approach to ritual studies Victor Turner and Contemporary Cultural Performance Graham St. John, 2008 In the twenty years following Victor Turner's death interventions on the interconnected performance modes of play drama and community dimensions of which Turner deemed the limen and experimental and analytical forays into the anthropologies of experience and consciousness have complemented and extended Turnerian readings on the moments and sites of culture's becoming Examining Turner's continued relevance in performance and popular culture pilgrimage and communitas as well as Edith Turner's role the contributors reflect on the wide application of Victor Turner's thought to cultural performance in the early twenty first century and explore how Turner's ideas have been re-engaged renovated and repurposed in studies of

contemporary cultural performance      *Performing Interpersonal Violence* Werner Riess, 2012-01-27 This book offers the first attempt at understanding interpersonal violence in ancient Athens While the archaic desire for revenge persisted into the classical period it was channeled by the civil discourse of the democracy Forensic speeches curse tablets and comedy display a remarkable openness regarding the definition of violence But in daily life Athenians had to draw the line between acceptable and unacceptable behavior They did so by enacting a discourse on violence in the performance of these genres during which complex negotiations about the legitimacy of violence took place Performances such as the staging of trials and comedies ritually defined the meaning of violence and its appropriate application Speeches and curse tablets not only spoke about violence but also exacted it in a mediated form deriving its legitimate use from a democratic principle the communal decision of the human jurors in the first case and the underworld gods in the second Since discourse and reality were intertwined and the discourse was ritualized actual violence might also have been partly ritualized By still respecting the on going desire to harm one s enemy this partial ritualization of violence helped restrain violence and thus contributed to Athens relative stability      **A Celebration of Demons** Bruce Kapferer, 2021-01-07 The Sinhalese exorcism rituals are perhaps the most complex and the most magnificent in performance still extant For this second edition the author has written a new preface and introduction in which he argues that the techniques of healing in Sri Lanka and the aesthetics of this healing cannot be reduced to Western psychoanalytic or psychotherapeutic terms and develops new and original approaches to ritual and the aesthetic in general      *Boundaries of Self and Other in Ghanaian Popular Culture* Joseph K. Adjaye, 2004-03-31 Rituals are among the most enduring aspects of the African cultural landscape They appear to exist outside of time eternal and unchanging Joseph Adjaye argues that while rituals may seem to be static in reality they are dynamic and changing Through intense analysis of child naming ceremonies libations puberty initiation rights funerals and two major Ghanaian festivals Adjaye explores the interplay between ritual and audience interaction and participation By so doing he shows the many ways rituals have provided Ghanaians with a means to conceptualize and change their present and shape their future In other words rituals help individuals escape the boundaries of self by promoting a sense of collective purpose and agency This book will appeal to not only Africanists but to readers interested in the roles rituals play in their own lives and the ways that rituals encourage socially transforming initiatives      *Social Justice and the Hebrew Bible, Volume Three* Norman K. Gottwald, 2018-06-28 PART 1 EXAMINING TEXTS 1 Social Drama in the Psalms of Individual Lament 2 Kingship in the Book of Psalms 3 Abusing the Bible The Case of Deuteronomy 15 4 Do not Fear What They Fear A Post 9 11 Reflection Isaiah 8 11 15 5 The Expropriated and the Expropriators in Nehemiah 5 6 How Do Extrabiblical Sociopolitical Data Illuminate Obscure Biblical Texts The Case of Ecclesiastes 5 8 9 Heb 5 7 8 7 On the Alleged Wisdom of Kings An Application of Adorno s Immanent Criticism to Ecclesiastes PART 2 ENGAGING PRACTICES 8 Framing Biblical Interpretation at New York Theological Seminary A Student Self Inventory on Biblical Hermeneutics 9 Theological Education as a Theory Praxis Loop

Situating the Book of Joshua in a Cultural Social Ethical and Theological Matrix 10 The Bible as Nurturer of Passive and Active Worldviews 11 Biblical Scholarship in Public Discourse 12 On Framing Elections The Stories We Tell Ourselves 13 Values and Economic Structures

## **Revelation Divination In Ndembu Ritual** Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In a world driven by information and connectivity, the energy of words has become more evident than ever. They have the capacity to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such could be the essence of the book **Revelation Divination In Ndembu Ritual**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep in to the significance of words and their impact on our lives. Compiled by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we shall explore the book's key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall impact on readers.

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### **Revelation Divination In Ndembu Ritual Introduction**

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