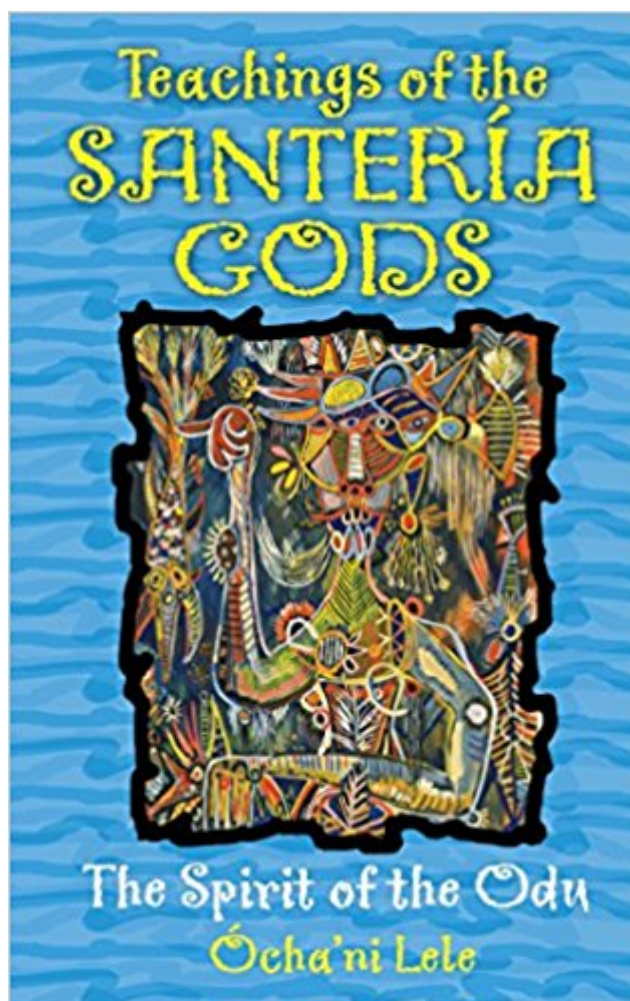


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Teachings Of The Santería Gods: The Spirit Of The Odu



Synopsis

The first book to explore the sacred myths of SanterÃ- a â ¢ Includes more than 100 myths, stories, and histories about the odu and the orishas â ¢ Reassembles the oral fragments from the African diaspora into coherent stories â ¢ Demonstrates that the African peoples, specifically the Yoruba, were deeply spiritual At the core of the diloggÃºn--the sacred divination system of SanterÃ- a--are the sacred stories known as the patakÃ- s, narratives whose themes are as powerful and relevant today as they were in the minds of the ancient Yoruba who safeguarded them. Each patakÃ- is connected to one or more of the 16 odu, the principal creative forces of SanterÃ- a. Some recount the lives of orishas on earth, others the lives of individuals in heaven, and some tell of the odu themselves, for even they once walked the earth as mortals. The first book to explore these ancient African stories in English, Teachings of the SanterÃ- a Gods recounts more than 100 of these sacred parables, including many stories reassembled from the oral tradition of the African diaspora. Ranging from creation myths to what happens when a love potion works far too well, these stories share the wisdom and spirituality of the Yoruba people of ancient Africa and form the living, oral bible of one of the worldâ s fastest-growing faiths.

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Customer Reviews

â ¢There is no more magical way to feel close to the orishas than through the patakÃ- s. It is there that one is transported to oneâ s imagination. Ãchaâ ni Lele has a very spiritual manner in elevating my imagination through his writing, which reveals a special touch. Â¡Maferfun orichas!

What is seen is not questioned! This is a special book for those of us who go forth from the heart, without malice. ã“chaâ™ni Lele, my dear, I congratulate you!â • (Ivy Queen, vocalist, musician, and Queen of Reggaeton)â œThis book is a page turner. ã“chaâ™ni Lele relates these sacred stories with the ease of a knowledgeable narrator while drawing clarity and meaning out of the religionâ™s complex chorus of voices. This book moves the deep spirituality of the religion away from ethnography and connects the sacred to religious studies where it is well overdue.â • (Oba Ernesto Pichardo, Church of the Lukumi Babalu Aye)"If you have any interest in Santeria, or in a story well-told, then you should pick up Ocha'ni Lele's Teachings fo the Santeria Gods. Don't simply read it, savor it. Each of these stories is a gem worth examining, and Lele is the wise jeweler joyfully pointing out each facet." (Star Foster, Pantheon: The Pagan Blog at Patheos, September 2010)"For the first time, one hundred of the ancient African stories known as pataki have been made available in English. It was a gargantuan labor of love for the author." (Anna Jedrziwski, New Age Retailer, September 2010)"Loaded with stories that provide entertainment and unique perspectives, Teachings of the Santeria Gods is an excellent book for those looking to learn about Santeria or African folklore." (The Magical Buffet, October 2010)â œTwo words sum up Teachings of the Santeria Gods: Spirit of the Odu . . . â ^Beautifully Writtenâ™.â • (Facing North, January 2011)â œ. . . well-written, informative, possessed of rare clarity, and a joy to read.â • (SpiralNature.com, May 2011)

SHAMANISM / INDIGENOUS CULTURES â œThere is no more magical way to feel close to the orishas than through the patakÃ-s. It is there that one is transported to oneâ™s imagination. ã“chaâ™ni Lele has a very spiritual manner in elevating my imagination through his writing, which reveals a special touch. Â¡Maferefun orichas! What is seen is not questioned! This is a special book for those of us who go forth from the heart, without malice. ã“chaâ™ni Lele, my dear, I congratulate you!â • --Ivy Queen, vocalist, musician, and Queen of Reggaeton â œThis book is a page turner. ã“chaâ™ni Lele relates these sacred stories with the ease of a knowledgeable narrator while drawing clarity and meaning out of the religionâ™s complex chorus of voices. This book moves the deep spirituality of the religion away from ethnography and connects the sacred to religious studies where it is well overdue.â • --Oba Ernesto Pichardo, Church of the Lukumi Babalu Aye At the core of the diloggÃn--the sacred divination system of SanterÃ-a--are the sacred stories known as the patakÃ-s, narratives whose themes are as powerful and relevant today as they were in the minds of the ancient Yoruba who safeguarded them. Each patakÃ- is connected to one or more of the 16 odu, the principal creative forces of SanterÃ-a. Some recount the lives of orishas on Earth, others

the lives of individuals in Heaven, and some tell of the odu themselves, for even they once walked the earth as mortals. The first book to explore these ancient African stories in English, Teachings of the SanterÃ- a Gods recounts more than 100 of these sacred parables, including many stories reassembled from the oral tradition of the African diaspora. Ranging from creation myths to what happens when a love potion works far too well, these stories share the wisdom and spirituality of the Yoruba people of ancient Africa and form the living, oral bible of one of the worldâ™s fastest-growing faiths. Ã“CHAâ™NI LELE has been immersed in the underground culture of orisha worship since 1989. He made Ocha in 2000 and was crowned a priest of Oya. His other books include The Secrets of Afro-Cuban Divination, ObÃ- : Oracle of Cuban SanterÃ- a, and The DiloggÃ“n: The Orishas, Proverbs, Sacrifices, and Prohibitions of Cuban SanterÃ- a. He lives in Winter Park, Florida.

There are so few reputable authors when it comes to Santeria. As an Aborisha I can personally attest that this author is not only an initiate of a verified Ile, but is also an Elder in the community. If you are interested in studying this beautiful religion, then I certainly recommend his books. However, if you feel the call to worship the Orishas, you must remember that this is NOT a solitary or pagan practice. You must find a competent godparent who will serve as your initiator.

This was a very good read that helped me to understand a part of this great belief system that I am very interested in becoming an adherent to. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who would like to be transported into the life and times of the Orishas.

Ocha'ni Lele did a wonderful job of retelling many of the tales of the Odu during their lives on earth. So many followers of the Lucumi faith only focus on the main Orisha and I think often forget about the lesser deities and even the important Odu individually. The author was able to handcraft an assortment of various stories on each one, maintaining some of the tribal, primitive elements while modernizing the stories all at the same time - making for a wonderful preservation of the Yoruba patakÃ-. I expect this book to be one handed down as a learning tool to each person who is to learn the ways of the religion in addition to learning the system of diloggun divination. The lively, easy to read stories, will capture newcomers and maybe even help exploit the Lucumi religion for the better. Thank you, Stuart, for your amazing contribution. I want an autographed copy ;)

I own several of Ocha'ni Lele's books and this has just become my favorite. By way of patakis, we

gain knowledge and deeper understanding of the teachings of Santeria. The huge body of patakis have historically been passed from generation to generation verbally. As such, the risk of losing some is a real one. Thanks to Ocha'ni Lele, this risk has greatly been minimized. These stories allow the reader to contemplate the odu's deeper meanings, and to clearly see the beauty and depth of this religion and its teachings. Each body of odu is analyzed; out of many, many patakis, Ocha'ni shares the most important for each odu. By doing so, a picture is painted in the reader's mind which allows for a deeper understanding. This is a vital addition to my personal library. Thank you, Ocha'ni!!

Absolutely loved it. I've been involved with the religion for a only few years, and still learning. I found these stories/Patakies great way to help me remember the "key points" of a reading. Which seems to believe the whole point of getting reading. Of course this is not meant to REPLACE your Godparents ;). No reason any competent EXPERIENCED Godparent should have problem with their godchild reading this book. I have read other works by Ocha'ni Lele and found everything written invaluable. Many many thanks.

Very entertaining and insightful stories about the orishas and odus!

I bought this book back in Feb, I am still reading it over and over trying to digest all the gifts this author writes. I highly recommend pairing this book with Some of his others "The Diloggun "the orishas, proverbs, sacrifices, and prohibitions of Cuban Santeria" and "Diloggun tales of the Natural world". I find myself going back and forth between these three books the most. What I love the most is just by reading the books you are filled with so many questions and things you want to discuss with your spiritual family. The amazing conversations it's led me to with my sister are a much welcomed blessing.

Ocha Ni Lele is a god sent, this book is clear and sacred to aspirants, aleyos and olorishas. Must be read and easy read for inspiration and instruction.

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