

Theory and History of Ontology ([www.ontology.co](http://www.ontology.co)) by Raul Corazzon | e-mail: [rc@ontology.co](mailto:rc@ontology.co)

## Selected bibliography on African Philosophy

### Contents

This part of the section [Intercultural and Comparative Philosophy](#) includes the following pages:

[Intercultural and Comparative Philosophy: An Overview \(current page\)](#)

[Bibliography: A-Den](#)

[Bibliography: Deu-K](#)

[Bibliography: L-N](#)

[Bibliography: O-S](#)

[Bibliography: T-Z](#)

[African Philosophy](#)

[Selected bibliography on African Philosophy \(Current page\)](#)



[Comparative philosophy. Bibliography of the studies in English: Complete PDF Version on the website Academia.edu](#)

### Bibliography

1. Abimbola, Wande. 1975. "The Yoruba Concept of Human Personality." In *La Notion de Personne en Afrique Noire*, 73-89. Paris: Editions L'Harmattan.  
"After a brief introduction to Yoruba cosmology, the author analyzes representations associated with the main components of the human person. *Ara* (the body) refers to the set of physical elements. The "spiritual" components the most important are: *emí*, (the soul), *orí* (the inner head) and *esé* (the leg). *Emí*, imperishable element, is created by *Olòdùmarè* (the Supreme Being). That is, in every individual, a parcel of "divine breath". *Orí* (the inner head) is associated with personal destiny. Every human being chooses it freely before coming into the world. *Esé* (the leg) represents the activity and the power. This is the element that allows you to update the potentialities received with the *orí*. The analysis is based on poetic texts extracted of the oral literature relating to *Ifá* (Yoruba divinatory system)."

2. Abraham, Willie E. 1962. *The Mind of Africa*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.  
Second edition: Leghon-Accra (Ghana) Sub-Saharan Pub & Traders 2015 with a new Preface by the Author.
3. Afolayan, Adeshina, and Falola, Toyin, eds. 2017. *The Palgrave Handbook of African Philosophy*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
4. Agada, Ada. 2015. *Existence and Consolation: Reinventing Ontology, Gnosis, and Values in African Philosophy*. St. Paul, MN: Paragon House.
5. Akande, Michael Aina. 2013. "A Re-Interpretation of African Philosophical Idea of Man and the Universe: The Yoruba Example." *Open Journal of Philosophy* no. 3:140-145.
6. Ansell-Pearson, Keith J. 1987. "The question of African philosophy and Kwasi Wiredu's philosophy and an African culture." *Journal of Humanities* no. 1:75-90.
7. Appiah, Kwame Anthony. 1992. *In My Father's House. Africa in the Philosophy of Culture*. New York: Oxford University Press.
8. Asante, Molefi Kete. 1998. *The Afrocentric Idea*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.  
Revised and Expanded Edition.  
First edition Philadelphia: Temple University Press 1987.
9. Asante, Molefi Kete, and Karenga, Maulana, eds. 2006. *Handbook of Black Studies*. London: Sage Publications.
10. Asante, Molefi Kete, and Mazama, Ama, eds. 2005. *Encyclopedia of Black Studies*. London: Sage Publications.
11. Asouzu, Innocent I. 2005. *The Method and Principles of Complementary Reflection in and Beyond African Philosophy*. Münster: LIT Verlag.
12. ———. 2007. *Ibuanyidanda: New Complementary Ontology Beyond World-Immanentism, Ethnocentric Reduction and Impositions*. Münster: LIT Verlag.
13. Bedu-Addo, Joseph T. 1985. "Wiredu on Truth as Opinion and the Akan Language." In *Philosophy in Africa: Trends and Perspectives*, edited by Bodunrin, Peter, 68-90. Ife: University of Ife Press.
14. Bell, Richard H. 2002. *Understanding African Philosophy: A Cross-Cultural Approach to Classical and Contemporary Issues in Africa*. New York: Routledge.
15. Bernal, Martin. 1987. *Black Athena. The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization, Vol. I: Fabrication of Ancient Greece 1785 - 1985*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.
16. ———. 1991. *Black Athena. The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization, Vol. II: The Archaeological and Documentary Evidence*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.
17. ———. 2001. *Black Athena Writes Back. Martin Bernal Responds to His Critics*. Durham: Duke University Press.
18. ———. 2006. *Black Athena. The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization, Vol. III: The Linguistic Evidence*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.
19. Blakeley, Thomas J. 1984. "The Categories of Mtu and the Categories of Aristotle." In *African Philosophy. An Introduction*, edited by Wright, Richard A., 163-170. Washington: University Press of America.
20. Bobo, Jacqueline, Hudley, Cynthia, and Michel, Claudine, eds. 2004. *The Black Studies Reader*. New York: Routledge.
21. Bodunrin, Peter. 1981. "The Question of African Philosophy." *Philosophy* no. 56:161-179.

22. Bongmba, Elias Kifon. 2001. *African Witchcraft and Otherness. A Philosophical and Theological Critique of Intersubjective Relations*. Albany: State University of New York Press.
23. Botz-Bornstein, Thorsten. 2006. "Ethnophilosophy, Comparative Philosophy, Pragmatism: Toward a Philosophy of Ethnoscapes." *Philosophy East and West* no. 56:153-171.
24. Botz-Bornstein, Thorsten, and Asouzu, Innocent I. 2013. *Ibuanyidanda: (Complementary Reflection) and Some Basic Philosophical Problems in Africa Today*. Münster: LIT Verlag.
25. Brown, Lee M., ed. 2004. *African Philosophy. New and Traditional Perspectives*. New York: Oxford University Press.
26. Chimakonam, Jonathan O. 2012. *Introducing African Science. Systematic and Philosophical Approach*. Bllomington: AuthorHouse.
27. ———, ed. 2015. *Atuolu Omalu: Some Unanswered Questions in Contemporary African Philosophy*. Lanham: University Press of America.
28. Chimakonam, Jonathan O., Egbai, Uti Ojah, Segun, Samuel T., and Attoe, Aribiah, eds. 2019. *New Conversations on the Problems of Identity, Consciousness and Mind*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.
29. Chimakonam, Jonathan O., and Etieyibo, Edwin E., eds. 2018. *Ka Osi Sọ Onye: African Philosophy in the Postmodern Era*. Wilmington, DE: Vernon Press.
30. Chioni Moore, David. 1998. "African Philosophy vs. Philosophy of Africa: Continental Identities and Traveling Names for Self " *Diaspora: A Journal of Transnational Studies* no. 7:321-350.
31. Coetzee, Pieter Hendrik, and Roux, A.P.J., eds. 2003. *The African Philosophy Reader. A Text with Readings*. New York: Routledge. Second expanded edition (first edition 1998).
32. Davis, Bret W. 2019. "Beyond Philosophical Euromonopolism:Other Ways of—Not Otherwise than—Philosophy." *Philosophy East and West* no. 69:592-619.
33. Diagne, Bachir. 2016. *The Ink of the Scholars: Reflections on Philosophy in Africa*. Oxford: African Books Collective,.
34. Dübgen, Franziska, and Skupien, Stefan. 2019. *Paulin Hountondji. African Philosophy as Critical Universalism*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.
35. Dukor, Maduabu. 1989. "African Cosmology and Ontology." *Indian Philosophical Quarterly* no. 16:367-391.
36. Edeh, Emmanuel M. P. 1985. *Towards an Igbo Metaphysics*. Chicago: Loyola University Press.
37. English, Parker, and Kalumba, Kibujjo, eds. 1996. *African Philosophy: A Classical Approach*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
38. Etieyibo, Edwin E., ed. 2018. *Method, Substance, and the Future of African Philosophy*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.
39. Eze, Emmanuel Chukwudi, ed. 1997. *Postcolonial African Philosophy: A Critical Reader*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell.
40. ———, ed. 1998. *African Philosophy: An Anthology*. Oxford: Blackwell.
41. ———. 2001. *Achieving Our Humanity: The Idea of the Postracial Future*. New York: Routledge.
42. ———. 2008. *On Reason. Rationality in a World of Cultural Conflict and Racism*. Durham: Duke University Press.

43. Fayemi, Ademola Kazeem. 2011. "A Critique of Cultural Universals and Particulars in Kwasi Wiredu's Philosophy." *Trames* no. 15:259-276.
44. ———. 2017. "African philosophy in search of historiography." *Nokoko* no. 6:297-316.
45. Floistad, Guttorm, ed. 1987. *Contemporary Philosophy. A New Survey. Vol. V: African Philosophy*. Dordrecht: Martinus Nijhoff.
46. Forde, Daryll, ed. 1954. *African Worlds: Studies in the Cosmological Ideas and Social Values of African Peoples*. London: Oxford University Press.
47. Gbadegesin, Segun. 1991. *African Philosophy: Traditional Yoruba Philosophy and Contemporary African Realities*. Bern: Peter Lang.
48. Gordon, Lewis R. 2000. *Existencia Africana. Understanding Africana Existential Thought*. New York: Routledge.
49. ———. 2008. *An Introduction to Africana Philosophy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
50. Graness, Anke, and Kress, Kai, eds. 1997. *Sagacious Reasoning: Henry Odera Oruka in memoriam*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang.
51. Grinker, Roy Richard, and Steiner, Christopher B., eds. 1997. *Perspectives on Africa. A Reader in Culture, History, and Representation*. Cambridge: Blackwell. Second edition 2010.
52. Gyekye, Kwame. 1987. *An Essay on African Philosophical Thought: The Akan Conceptual Scheme*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Second revised edition: Philadelphia, Temple University Press, 1995.
53. ———. 1997. *Tradition and Modernity: Philosophical Reflections on the African Experience*. New York: Oxford University Press.
54. Hallen, Barry. 2000. *The Good, the Bad, and the Beautiful: Discourse about Values in Yoruba Culture*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
55. ———. 2002. *A Short History of African Philosophy*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
56. ———. 2006. *African Philosophy. The Analytic Approach*. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press.
57. ———. 2014. "Select Issues and Controversies in Contemporary African Philosophy." *Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement* no. 74:109-122.
58. Hallen, Barry, and Sodipo, J.Olubi. 1997. *Knowledge, Belief and Witchcraft: Analytic Experiments in African Philosophy*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.  
Foreword by Dorothy Emmett.  
Second edition with a new foreword by Willard Van Orman Quine and a new afterword by Barry Hallen.  
First edition London: Ethnographica 1986.
59. Hamminga, Bert, ed. 2005. *Knowledge Cultures. Comparative Western and Africa Epistemology*. Amsterdam: Rodopi.
60. Harris, Leonard, ed. 1989. *The Philosophy of Alain Locke: Harlem Renaissance and Beyond*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.
61. Headley, Clevis. 2017. "On the Historiography of Africana Philosophy: Overcoming Disciplinary Decadence through the Teleological Suspension of Philosophy." *Critical Philosophy of Race* no. 5:70-90.
62. Henry, Paget. 2000. *Caliban's Reason. Introducing Afro-Caribbean Philosophy*. New York: Routledge.

63. Hord, Fred Lee (Mzee Lasana Okpara), and Lee, Jonathan Scott, eds. 2016. *I Am Because We Are. Readings in Africana Philosophy*. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press.
64. Hountondji, Paulin J. 1996. *African Philosophy: Myth and Reality*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.  
Translation of: *Sur la philosophie africaine. Critique de l'ethnophilosophie*, Paris: Maspéro, 1976, by Henri Evans with the collaboration of Jonathan Rée.  
Introduction by Abiola Irele, pp. 7-30.  
Second edition with a new Preface, pp. VII-XXVIII; first edition: London: Hutchinson 1983.
65. ———. 2002. *The Struggle for Meaning: Reflections on African Philosophy, Culture and Democracy in Africa*. Athens: Ohio University Press.
66. Ikuenobe, Polycarp. 1997. "The Parochial Universalist Conception of 'philosophy' and 'African Philosophy'." *Philosophy East and West* no. 47:189-210.
67. Imbo, Samuel Olouch. 1998. *An Introduction to African Philosophy*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.
68. ———. 2002. *Oral Traditions as Philosophy: Okot p'Bitek's Legacy for African Philosophy*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.
69. Jahn, Janheinz. 1961. *Muntu: An Outline of the New African Culture*. New York: Faber and Faber.  
Translated from the German *Muntu. Umrisse der neoafrikanischen Kultur* (1958) by Marjorie Grene.  
Reprinted, with a new introduction by Calvin C. Hernton with the title: *Muntu. African Culture and the Western World*, New York: Grove Press, 1990.
70. ———. 2009. *Philosophy in an African Place*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.
71. Janz, Bruce B. 2008. "African Philosophy." In *The Edinburgh Companion to Twentieth-Century Philosophies*, edited by Boundas, Constantin V. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
72. Jeffers, Chike, and Thiong'o, Ngũgĩ wa, eds. 2013. *Listening to Ourselves: A Multilingual Anthology of African Philosophy*. Albany: State University of New York Press,.
73. Kanu, Ikechukwu Anthony. 2013. "On the Sources of African Philosophy." *Filosofia Theoretica: Journal of African Philosophy, Culture and Religion* no. 2:337-356.
74. Karp, Ivan, and Masolo, Dismas A., eds. 2000. *African Philosophy as Cultural Inquiry*. Bloomington: Indian University Press.
75. Kayange, Grivas Muchineripi. 2018. *Meaning and Truth in African Philosophy. Doing African Philosophy with Language*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.
76. Kebede, Messsay. 2004. *Africa's Quest for a Philosophy as Decolonization*. Amsterdam: Rodopi.
77. Kigunga, Raphael. 1996. *The Anthropology of Self - Person and Myth in Africa: A Philosophical Reflection on Man in South-East-Africa*. New York: Peter Lang.
78. Kwame, Safro, ed. 1995. *Readings in African Philosophy: An Akan Collection*. Lanham: University Press of America.
79. Lefkowitz, Mary. 1996. *Not Out of Africa. How Afrocentrism Became and Excuse to Teach Myth as History*. New York: Basic Books.
80. Lefkowitz, Mary, and MacLean Rogers, Guy, eds. 1996. *Black Athena Revisited*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.
81. Lott, Tommy L., and Pittman, John P., eds. 2003. *A Companion to African-American Philosophy*. Malden: Blackwell.

82. Love, Velma E. 2012. *Divining the Self: A Study in Yoruba Myth and Human Consciousness*. University Park: The Pennsylvania State University Press.
83. Makumba, Maurice Muhatia. 2007. *An Introduction to African Philosophy: Past and Present*. Nairobi: Paulines Publications Africa.
84. Masolo, D. A. 1994. *African Philosophy in Search of Identity*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
85. ———. 2000. "From Myth to Reality: African Philosophy at Century-End." *Research in African Literatures* no. 31:149-172.
86. ———. 2010. *Self and Community in a Changing World*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
87. Matolino, Bernard. 2015. "Universalism and African philosophy." *African Journal of Philosophy* no. 34:433-440.
88. Mawere, Munyaradzi. 2011. *African Belief and Knowledge Systems: A Critical Perspective*. Mankon, Bamenda: Langaa Research & Publishing CIG.
89. ———. 2017. *The African Conundrum: Rethinking the Trajectories of Historical, Cultural, Philosophical and Developmental Experiences of Africa*. Oxford: African Books Collective.
90. Mawere, Munyaradzi, and Mubaya, Tapuwa R. 2016. *African Philosophy and Thought Systems: A Search for a Culture and Philosophy of Belonging*. Mankon, Bamenda: Langaa Research & Publishing CIG.
91. ———, eds. 2017. *African Studies in the Academy: The Cornucopia of Theory, Praxis and Transformation in Africa?* Mankon, Bamenda: Langaa Research & Publishing CIG.
92. Mbiti, John S. 1990. *African Religions and Philosophy*. Oxford: Heinemann. Second revised and enlarged edition. First edition Oxford: Heinemann 1969.
93. Metz, Thaddeus. 2017. "Values in China as Compared to Africa: Two Conceptions of Harmony." *Philosophy East and West* no. 67:441-465.
94. Mosley, Albert G. 1995. *African Philosophy: Selected Readings*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.
95. Mudimbe, V. Y. 1988. *The Invention of Africa. Gnosis, Philosophy, and the Order of Knowledge*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
96. Murungi, John. 2017. *African Philosophical Illuminations*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.
97. ———. 2018. *African Philosophical Currents*. New York: Routledge.
98. Nabudere, Dani Wadada. 2011. *Afrikology, Philosophy and Wholeness: An Epistemology*. Oxford: African Books Collective.
99. ———. 2012. *Afrikology and Transdisciplinarity*. Oxford: African Books Collective.
100. Ochieng'-Odhiambo, F. 2010. *Trends and Issues in African Philosophy*. New York: Peter Lang.
101. Oguejiofor, J. Obi, and Onah, Godfrey Igwebuikwe, eds. 2005. *African Philosophy and the Hermeneutics of Culture: Essays in Honour of Theophilus Okere*. Münster: LIT Verlag.
102. Ogunnaike, Oludamini. 2017. "African Philosophy Reconsidered: Africa, Religion, Race, and Philosophy." *Journal of Africana Religions* no. 5:181-216.
103. Okere, Theophilus. 1983. *African Philosophy: A Historico-Hermeneutical Investigation of the Conditions of Its Possibility*. Lanham: University Press of

- America.
104. ———, ed. 1996. *Identity and Change: Nigerian Philosophical Studies, I*. Washington, D.C. : Council for Research in Values and Philosophy.
  105. Oruka, H. Odera, ed. 1990. *Sage Philosophy: Indigenous Thinkers and Modern Debate on African Philosophy*. Leiden: Brill.
  106. Osha, Sanya. 2011. *Postethnophilosophy*. Amsterdam: Rodopi.
  107. ———. 2018. *Dani Nabudere's Afrikology: A Quest for African Holism*. Dakar: Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa.
  108. Park, Peter K. J. 2013. *Africa, Asia, and the History of Philosophy. Racism in the Formation of the Philosophical Canon, 1780–1830*. Albany: State University of New York Press.
  109. Praeg, Leonhard. 2000. *African Philosophy and the Quest for Autonomy: A Philosophical Investigation*. Leiden: Brill.
  110. Serequeberhan, Tsenay, ed. 1991. *African Philosophy: The Essential Readings*. Saint Paul, MN: Paragon House.
  111. ———. 1994. *The Hermeneutics of African Philosophy, Horizon and Discourse*. New York: Routledge.
  112. Shutte, Augustine. 1996. *Philosophy for Africa*. Milwaukee: Marquette University Press.
  113. Sogolo, Godwin S. 1990. "Options in African Philosophy." *Philosophy* no. 65:39-52.
  114. ———. 1993. *Foundations of African Philosophy: A Definitive Analysis of Conceptual Issues in African Thought*. Ibadan: Ibadan University Press.
  115. Summer, Claude. 1986. *Source of African Philosophy: The Ethiopian Philosophy of Man*. Philadelphia: Coronet Books.
  116. Tempels, Placide. 1952. *Bantu Philosophy*. Paris: Présence africaine. Translated by A. Rubbens from *La philosophie Bantoue*. With a foreword to the English edition by Margaret Read. Reprinted 1969.
  117. Theron, Stephen. 1995. *Africa, Philosophy, and the Western Tradition: An Essay in Self-Understanding*. New York: Peter Lang.
  118. Tosam, Mbih J., and Takov, Peter, eds. 2016. *Philosophy in Culture: A Cross-Cultural Perspective*. Mankon, Bamenda (Cameron): Langaa Research & Publishing.
  119. Ukpokolo, Isaac E., ed. 2017. *Themes, Issues and Problems in African Philosophy*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.
  120. Waghid, Yusef, Waghid, Faiq, and Waghid, Zayd. 2018. *Rupturing African Philosophy on Teaching and Learning*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.
  121. Williams, Zachery, ed. 2009. *Africana Cultures and Policy Studies. Scholarship and the Transformation of Public Policy*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.
  122. Wiredu, J. E. [Kwasi]. 1997. "How Not to Compare African Traditional Thought with Western Thought." *Transition: A Journal of the Arts, Culture and Society* no. 75/76:320-327. Reprinted in K. Wiredu, *Philosophy and an African Culture*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 1980 and in Albert G. Mosley, *African Philosophy: Selected Readings*, Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall 1995, pp. 159-171.
  123. Wiredu, Kwasi. 1980. *Philosophy and an African Culture*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Contents: Part I: 1. Philosophy and an African culture; 2. On an African orientation in philosophy; 3. How not to compare African traditional thought with Western

- thought; 4. What can philosophy do for Africa?; Part II: 5. Marxism, philosophy and ideology; 6. In praise of utopianism; Part III: 7. Philosophy, mysticism and rationality; 8. Truth as opinion; 9. To be is to be known; 10. What is philosophy?; 11. In defence of opinion; 12. Truth: a dialogue; Origins of the essays; Index.
124. ———. 1996. *Cultural Universals and Particulars: an African Perspective*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
125. ———, ed. 2004. *A Companion to African Philosophy*. Malden: Blackwell.
126. Wiredu, Kwasi, and Gyekye, Kwame. 1992. *Person and Community. Ghanaian Philosophical Studies, I*. Washington, D.C.: The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy.
127. Wright, Richard A., ed. 1984. *African Philosophy: An Introduction*. Washington: University Press of America.  
Third expanded edition (First edition 1977; second edition 1979).  
Contents: Acknowledgments V; Preface to the third edition IX; Preface to the second edition XI; Preface to the first edition XIII; P. O. Bodunrin: The Question of African Philosophy 1; Henri Maurier: Do We Have an African Philosophy? 25; Richard A. Wright: Investigating African Philosophy 41; Lacinay Keita: The African Philosophical Tradition 57; Henry Olela: The African Foundations of Greek Philosophy 77; John A. A. Ayoade: Time in Yoruba Thought 93; Helaine K. Minkus: Causal Theory in Akwapim Akan Philosophy 113; J. E. [Kwame] Wiredu: How Not to Compare African Thought with Western Thought 149; Thomas J. Blakeley: The Categories of Mtu and The Categories of Aristotle 163; Richard C. Onwuanibe: The Human Person and Immortality in IBO Metaphysics 183; Kwame Gyekye: Akan Concept of a Person 199; Benjamin Eruku Oguah: African and Western Philosophy: A Comparative Study 213; Diana E. Axelsen: Philosophical Justifications for Contemporary African Social and Political Values and Strategies 227; Benjamin Neuberger: A Comparative Analysis of Pan-Africanism 245; Bibliography 265; Bibliography Index 307.