

Contents

Preface *xiii*

An African Chronology *xv*

African Sources: An Introduction *i*



PART ONE The Creation of the Universe

9

The Heliopolis Creation Narrative	14
The Memphite Declaration of the Deities	15
PHARAOH UNAS	
Vision of the Universe	17
PHARAOH TETI	
Vision of the Universe	24
PHARAOH PEPI	
Vision of the Universe	27
PRINCESS NI-SEDJER-KAI	
Tomb Inscription	31
HOTEP-HER-AKHET	
Tomb Inscription	32
NEFER-SESHEM-RA	
Tomb Inscription	33
NI-HEBSED-PEPI	
Memorial Stone	34
The San Creation Narrative	35

The Khoi Creation Narrative	38
The Barozvi Creation Narrative	39
The Dogon Creation Narrative	41
The Yoruba Creation Narrative	45
The Asante Tower to Heaven	50
The Asante Concept of the Creation of the Lesser Gods	51
JAMES WELDON JOHNSON	
The Creation	53



PART TWO **Religious Ideas** 57

NEFER-ROHU	
The Prophecy	63
PAHERI	
Tomb Prayers	66
Selections from the Papyrus of Ani	71
AKHENATEN	
Hymns to Aten	75
HAREMHAB	
Prayer and Hymn	79
Penitential Hymns	82
Selections from the Book of Henok (Enoch)	86
JOMO KENYATTA	
Religion and Ancestor Veneration	88
Asante Praise Poems to Tano River and the Earth	90
A Lodagaa Libation to the Ancestors	91
ABU SHARDOW ABARRY	
Recurrent Themes in Ga Libation (Mpai) Oratory	92
Igbo Invocations	96
WANDE ABIMBOLA	
Wapele: The Concept of Good Character in Ifá Literary Corpus	98
MENSAH SARBAH	
Akan Religion	107



PART THREE **Culture and Identity** 109

QUEEN HATSHEPSUT	
Her Assertion of Her Power	114

Yoruba Praises to Ogun	117
ISIDORE OKPEWHO	
The Resources of the Oral Epic	119
Kouroukan Fougan, or the Division of the World by Sundiata	131
J. P. CLARK-BEKEDEREMO	
The Ozidi Saga	136
MAZISI KUNENE	
The Rise of Shaka	151
HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.	
A Myth of Origins: Esu-Elegbara and the Signifying Monkey	160
OLAUDAH EQUIANO	
Identity, Culture, and Kidnapping	176
J. CASELEY HAYFORD	
Indigenous Institutions of Ghana	185
MARTIN DELANY	
The Condition and Destiny of Africans in the United States	189
HOUSTON A. BAKER, JR.	
W. E. B. Du Bois and <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>	193
AIMÉ CÉSAIRE	
Notes on a Return to the Native Land	202
CHEIKH ANTA DIOP	
The Origin and History of the Black World	207
ALI A. MAZRUI	
Africa's Tripartite Heritage: Towards Cultural Synthesis	210
JOHN HENRIK CLARKE	
The Origin and Growth of Afro-American Literature	218
First Congress of Negro Writers and Artists (1956)	227
Second Congress of Negro Writers and Artists (1959)	229
FRANTZ FANON	
On National Culture	236
AMILCAR CABRAL	
Identity and Dignity in the Context of Struggle	243
WOLE SOYINKA	
African Classical Concepts of Tragedy	248
PETER SARPONG	
The Akan Blackened Stool and the <i>Odwira</i> Festival	251
ABU SHARDOW ABARRY	
The Ga Homowo (Hunger-Hooting) Cultural Festival	254
J. AFRICANUS B. HORTON	
Africa as the Nursery of Science and Literature	255

MOLEFI KETE ASANTE
The Principal Issues in Afrocentric Inquiry 256

THÉOPHILE OBENGA
Genetic Linguistic Connections of Ancient Egypt and the
Rest of Africa 262



PART FOUR Philosophy and Morality

283

- JOHN MBITI
The Study of African Religions and Philosophy 287
- KWAME GYEKYE
The Idea of African Philosophy 294
- PTAH-HOTEP
Moral Teachings 306
- SINUHE
My Victory over Circumstances 308
- AMENEMOPE
Instructions for Well-Being 312
The Pharaoh's Speech at the Installation of Rekhmire as Prime Minister 326
The Doomed Prince 329
The Story of the Two Brothers 332
- WEN-AMON
My Journey to Asia 335
The Lion in Search of Man 340
- LÉOPOLD SÉDAR SENGHOR
African Socialism 342
- KWAME NKRUMAH
Consciencism 354
The Zulu Personal Declaration 371
- CHINUA ACHEBE
The African Writer and the English Language 379
Igbo Proverbs 385
Luyia Proverbs 387
African American Spirituals 388
- MARIA W. STEWART
On African Rights and Liberty 397
- MARCUS GARVEY
Philosophy and Opinions 402

W. E. B. DU BOIS	
The Concept of Race	409
ALAIN LOCKE	
The Ethics of Culture	418
WILLIAM E. ABRAHAM	
The Life and Times of Anton Wilhelm Amo, the First African (Black) Philosopher in Europe	424



PART FIVE Society and Politics

441

WENI	
Autobiography	446
HARKHUF	
Autobiography	449
WILLIAM E. ABRAHAM	
Theory of Human Society	452
MENSAH SARBAH	
On the Fante National Constitution	462
EDWARD WILMOT BLYDEN	
Mohammedanism and the Negro Race	470
EDWARD WILMOT BLYDEN	
Christianity and the Negro Race	477
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON	
Racial Accommodation	483
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON	
The Atlanta Exposition Address	489
W. E. B. DU BOIS	
Of Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others	492
MONROE TROTTER	
A Critique of Booker T. Washington's Plan	500
AMY JACQUES GARVEY	
Women as Leaders	503
ABDIAS DO NASCIMENTO	
Brazilian <i>Quilombismo</i>	505
Pan-African Congress Resolution (1919)	517
Pan-African Congress Resolution (1945)	518
PAUL ROBESON	
The Power of Negro Action	522

Declaration and Resolutions of the First Conference of Independent African States (1958)	533
MAULANA KARENGA	
The Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles): Their Meaning and Message	543
JULIUS K. NYERERE	
One-Party Government	555
KWAME NKRUMAH	
The Need for a Union Government for Africa	559
C. L. R. JAMES	
The Rise and Fall of Nkrumah	573
JAMES BALDWIN	
My Dungeon Shook: Letter to My Nephew on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Emancipation	580
CORNEL WEST	
W. E. B. Du Bois: The Jamesian Organic Intellectual	583



PART SIX	Resistance and Renewal	595
----------	------------------------	-----

AH-MOSE	
The Expulsion of the Hyksos	600
The Commemorative Stone of Thutmose III	602
THUTMOSE III	
Annals	605
Pharaoh Piye and the Victory over North	609
KING KWAME ANSA	
The Portuguese Fortress at El Mina	618
A Shona Song	619
NAT TURNER	
Narrative	620
DAVID WALKER	
Appeal to the Coloured Citizens of the World: Our Wretchedness in Consequence of Slavery	627
FREDERICK DOUGLASS	
Fourth of July Oration	637
FRANCES ELLEN WATKINS HARPER	
We Are All Bound Up Together	641
ANNA JULIA COOPER	
Womanhood: A Vital Element in the Regeneration and Progress of a Race	643

IDA B. WELLS-BARNETT	
Lynch Law in All Its Phases	651
CARTER G. WOODSON	
The Mis-Education of the Negro	656
EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE	
Address to the League of Nations	664
MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE	
My Last Will and Testament	671
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.	
I Have a Dream	674
FRANTZ FANON	
Colonial War and Mental Disorders	677
AMIRI BARAKA	
Revolutionary Culture and the Future of Pan African Culture	689
Charter of the Organization of African Unity	698
WALTER RODNEY	
How Africa Developed before the Coming of the Europeans— Up to the Fifteenth Century	706
MALCOLM X	
Message to the Grassroots	721
WALTER RODNEY	
Towards the Sixth Pan African Congress: Aspects of the International Class Struggle in Africa, the Caribbean, and America	729
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.	
Letter from a Birmingham Jail	740
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.	
Negroes Are Not Moving Too Fast	751
ABDIAS DO NASCIMENTO	
Cultural Revolution and the Future of the Pan African Culture	755
ANGELA Y. DAVIS	
Black Women and Music: A Historical Legacy of Struggle	765
AWA THIAM	
Black Sisters, Speak Out	778
MAULANA KARENGA	
The Million Man March/Day of Absence Mission Statement	780
Glossary of Names and Terms	791
Suggestions for Further Reading	801
Sources and Credits	809
Index	817