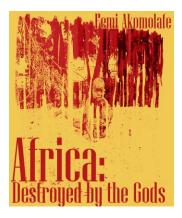
Introduction to Africa: Destroyed by the gods ', a book by Femi Akomolafe



Our main motivation for writing this book came from the pain we feel when we see the havoc foreign religions have wrought on Africa, especially in the last three decades.

On all the indices known to statisticians, Africa continues to perform abysmally. This is despite all the religious pyrotechnics one sees on the continent, especially by the new so-called Charismatic Christian sects.

Traditionally, Africans are a deeply spiritual people. It is sad and painful to see how our deep spirituality was used to turn us into unthinking zombies. It appears like the African elite, by which we mean the political as well as the spiritual elite, are in cahoots to keep the people in perpetual ignorance.

Our sojourn in Europe led to our questioning lots of assumptions.

Principal among this was the pertinent question of whether a people (Europeans, in this case) who came to despoil Africa with slavery and colonialism, would also come with a Savior to save us?

The same goes for the Arab conquerors who imposed their religious belief system on the territories they conquered.

It makes absolutely no sense to think that the same people that came to colonize us under very savage conditions, will also show us the Savior that will redeem us.

This, simple logic tells us, would have defeated the whole purpose of the colonial enterprise.

Some Ideals propagated by Christianity like, "Love your enemies," "Turn the other cheeks,"

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us," "My kingdom is not of this world," have no place in European life.

They make sense only when we see how it was successfully used by Europeans to dominate the world.

"Love your enemies," or "Forgive us our trespasses..." are not ideals by which any European will abide; yet they are the ideals that European missionaries imposed on Africans.

These ideals served the purpose of weakening us psychologically, and also to prepare our minds for the onslaught Europeans launched against us. They are simply utilitarian tools that Europe used to successfully break our will to resist their imposition and domination.

They served to transform our conquerors into saviors to worship.

Sadly, these are the same ideals our pastors today use to render us into unthinking masses of simpletons, so that they and the political elite can continue to loot our national resources.

The sadness we felt at the havor the Christian religion wrought compelled our to start writing about it.

We hope that our struggle will propel other honest Africans to begin to challenge the false preaching of Christians and, hopefully, regain some of our African patrimony before they are totally destroyed by the lies Christians peddle.

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Comradely,

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