The Kingdoms of the Yoruba

The Yoruba were one of the largest and most influential ethnic groups in West Africa. They were organized in a series of autonomous kingdoms and their past is richly recorded in oral tradition and written texts. The Yoruba people have a long history of political development, which dates back to the fourth century BC. They have a sophisticated system of government and a rich history of religious beliefs.

The Yoruba language, which is spoken by over 10 million people, is the second largest African language. It is a member of the Yorùbá branch of the Benue-Congo family of languages. The Yoruba language has a complex grammar and a rich vocabulary.

The Yoruba people are known for their art and craft, particularly their sculpture and metalwork. The Yoruba have a long tradition of oral literature, which includes stories, myths, and songs. These stories often reflect the values and beliefs of the Yoruba people.

The Yoruba people have a rich and diverse cultural heritage, which has been shaped by their history of political development and religious beliefs. They have a long tradition of literature, which includes poetry, prose, and drama. The Yoruba people have a long tradition of music, which includes traditional and modern styles.

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This project is an attempt to bring together the many fragments of history concerning the Yoruba religious community and their rise to prominence in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, from the mid-nineteenth to the late twentieth centuries.

Yorubaland originally published in 1967 this volume presents studies of 10 West African kingdoms which have played an important part in the economic, political, and cultural life of the region. Ranging geographically from the kingdom of Benin in southern Nigeria to the Wolof kingdom of Kayor in Senegal, they include the Oyo Yoruba, Dahomey, Hausa, Maradi, Kom in West Cameroon, the Mossi, Ashanti, and Gonja and the Mandekiir lands of Sierra Leone. Each outlines the historical origins and development of the kingdom and analyses its organization in the nineteenth century. It includes accounts of the economic basis and resources of the state and the significance of tribute and trade, of the social categories among its population, the administrative machinery and communications, the judicial and military organization and external relations. It also considers the importance of the ideology and rituals of kingship.