



# **Hail Orisha!: A Phenomenology of a West African Religion in the Mid-Nineteenth Century (Studies of Religion in Africa)**

*By McKenzie*

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Orisha worshippers who were not subjected to forced migration to the Americas in the 19th century remained their own masters, inhabiting cities, towns and farm villages in their West African kingdoms. This study uses documentation from Yoruba writings and from the written records of European missionaries to describe the religious life of Orisha worshippers. Arranged in the form of a phenomenology, the work deals with such matters as the veneration of the environment; carved images of the divine; the Orisha celebrated in festival, worship and sacrifice; systems of divination; female and male religious specialists; and the protean divinities themselves.

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