

Daniel Kasomo

The Belief in Mystical Powers in African Traditional Religion

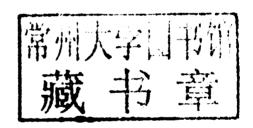
The Meaning, manifestations, Usefulness and effects



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LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing

Impressum/Imprint (nur für Deutschland/ only for Germany)

Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek: Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über http://dnb.d-nb.de abrufbar.

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Coverbild: www.ingimage.com

Verlag: LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing AG & Co. KG Dudweiler Landstr. 99, 66123 Saarbrücken, Deutschland Telefon +49 681 3720-310. Telefax +49 681 3720-3109

Email: info@lap-publishing.com

Herstellung in Deutschland: Schaltungsdienst Lange o.H.G., Berlin Books on Demand GmbH, Norderstedt Reha GmbH, Saarbrücken Amazon Distribution GmbH, Leipzig

ISBN: 978-3-8383-8350-7

Imprint (only for USA, GB)

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek: The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at http://dnb.d-nb.de.

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Publisher: LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing AG & Co. KG Dudweiler Landstr. 99, 66123 Saarbrücken, Germany Phone +49 681 3720-310, Fax +49 681 3720-3109

Email: info@lap-publishing.com

Printed in the U.S.A.

Printed in the U.K. by (see last page)

ISBN: 978-3-8383-8350-7

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DEDIMATION

This Book is dedicdted to my beloved pdrents Frdncis Kdsomo dnd Appolonid Kdsomo for the gift of fdith dnd life, their selfless love, cdre dnd very responsible pdrenthood.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank the good Lord who enabled me to begin this academic endeavour and successfully bring it to an end. Cordial gratitude to my Lord Bishop U.J. Kioko, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Machakos for enabling me to study at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa where I undertook the writing of this thesis. I am greatly indebted to the procurator Fr. Lawrence Mutava, for according me the opportunity and the monetary assistance during the years of study.

I wish to express in a special way my most sincere and heartfelt thanks to the two estimable and greatly talented supervisors, namely, Rev. Dr. P.M Maliti Rector of AMECEA college and Prof. Paul Ogula Head of Education Department in CUEA who have been of great assistance and guidance to me both as my lecturers and moderators. Both devoutedly and indefatigably read and re-read those different drafts of this thesis and gave me proper guidance.

Equal gratitude is extended to the academic dean and dean of the faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Prof. B. Kitururu and to my other lectures in the department of religious studies whose knowledge and values I received from them have been instrumental in writing this thesis.

This gesture of expressing my gratitude would be incomplete if I forget to mention Adjunct lecturers: Dr. Kubai, N. Kahumbi, P. Mwaura, L. Kahindi and P. Kahibunga Sr. Louise all of Kenyatta University not forgetting Dr. Theuri of Egerton University and

Brother Sylvian of Marist centre. I am equally grateful to all respondents and oral informants for giving me the raw material for this thesis.

I would be regarded the most ungrateful person, if I forget to mention Jane Ngobia (Head of Religious Department) who greatly helped me with the typing and printing. It is by her toil and sweat that this thesis has been put to shape. My thanks also go to the staff of the Catholic University of Eastern Africa for making my access to the facilities at the university possible.

I have not been alone on this journey. Hence, I acknowledge also the contributions of my comrades the three sisters, two priests and one Congolese! Whose company I valued so much. Last but not least my thanks go to MaryAnn M. Mutua the principal of Kyethivo Girls secondary school for her encouragement and support.

To all mentioned and un-mentioned may the blessing of the almighty God descend upon them and remain always with them.

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GLOSSARY

The words which are in use in Kikamba, will be explained or defined. Expressions and phrases of the same language will be covered for ease of reading. There might be a slight difference in the dialect since the Kikamba of Machakos or Ukamba is variable in writing and speech.

Α

Athani (sing. Mwathani): Prophets

Aimu (sing. Iimu): Spirits

Atumia: Elders

Atumia ma Ithembo: The religious personnel in charge of the shrine

Aoi (sing. Muoi): Witches, wizards. Those who tap like water or wealth

Auti: Sorcerers

Awe ma Kuausya, kuusya: Diviners

Awe ma ng'ondu: Herbalists who cleanse

I

Ithembo (pl. Mathembo): Sacrificial place (shrine

Iumo (sig. Kiumo): Curse or fig trees

K

Kathambi: Name of a spirit

Katumulwa: That which causes sudden death

Kamuti ka wendo: Love portion

Kavilitya: That which can crash a person to death

Ketia nthi That which can kill

Kithangona: Charm

Kithetha: Bad omen

Kilumi: The Akamba dance for women and elders

Kiumo: Curse

Kinze: A modern dance

Kisio: A civil division

Kisuka: An elders council

Kithitu: An oath

Kita: Evil tongue

Kiunya: That which a witch collects from another sorcery

Kuatha: To shoot

Kuausya: To consult

Kuuswa/kuuwa: To cleanse

Kuthemba: To sacrifice

Kutonya: To pierce

Kutonya ngondu: To pierce a herb used for cleansing

Kuvanda: To sow

Kuweta: To mention so as to avoid the ill effects of an evil tongue

Kwathiisya: To direct an intention

Kwita: To pour

Kyeni: Evil eye, evil ejaculation, wish or word

M

Majini: (Kiswahili word for evil spirits)

Mbai: Clan

Mbaa mbote: Of the household

Mbuu: Divination seeds or pebbles

Mumbi: Creator

Mundu: A person

Mundu mue: Diviner or medicine man

Mundu wa kiunya: Person who possesses the powers of kiunya

Makimiwa miti: Herbalist

Muonzo: Seven

Muonza-u-mwai: The deadly seven

Muthea: Medicine of a more or less magic character

Muthembi: Person who offers a sacrifice

Mwatuangi: The cleaver

N

Ngai God

Ndundu: Oath

Ng'ondu An Akamba purification ritual. A herb used for cleansing

Nthembo: Sacrifice

Nthoo: An incision

Nthi: Earth

Nzevu: Magical powder

U

Utui: Village

Uki: Beer or any alcohol

Uko wa uoi: The family of witches

Uoi: Witchcraft witches

S

Syama (sing. Kyama): Magic, miracle