Ancient African Civilizations

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Dathorne, O. R. “Africa as Ancestor: Diop as Unifier.” Presence Africaine 1989 (1-2): 121-133. C. A. Diop claimed that the ancient Egyptians were black and that the origins of Hellenic civilization were to be found in Africa.


Hall, Martin. “The Legend of the Lost City: Or, the Man with Golden Balls.” *Journal of Southern African Studies* 21(2): 179-199. Europeans from medieval times developed a mythology that featured the existence, in Africa, of a “lost civilization.” Attempts to link Great Zimbabwe with the ancient world beyond Africa were part of this invented history.


James, George G. M. *Stolen Legacy: The Greeks were Not the Authors of Greek Philosophy, but the People of North Africa, Commonly Called the Egyptians*. San Francisco: Julian Richardson Associates, 1976.


Lewis-Williams, J. D. “Images of the Spirit World.” *Archaeology* 52(3): 61-63. Rock paintings by the ancient San people of Africa depict many of their rituals and reveal much about their spirituality. Some of the paintings of the San are examined.


Mcwilliam, Fiona. “African Remains may have been the Queen of Sheba’s Palace.” *Geographical*, May 1999, p. 9. Archaeologists have discovered the remains of a powerful 1,000-year-old kingdom in the Nigerian rainforest, a site that has proved to be Africa’s largest monument.


Rybalkina, I. G. “Women in African History.” *Africa Quarterly* 29(3-4): 83-91. Briefly recalls some of the notable women who played an active political role in African history since Egypt’s Queen Hatshepsut in the 18th century B.C.


Spaulding, Jay. “The Old Shaiqi Language in Historical Perspective.” *History in Africa* 17: 283-292. Despite claims of Arabic origin and their acceptance by some Orientalists, the Old Shaiqi language was a form of Nubian closely related to Classical Nubian and the modern Nobiin speech found in the Kerma area of the northern Sudan.


Tamrat, Taddesse. “Processes of Ethnic Interaction and Integration in Ethiopian History: The Case of the Agaw.” *Journal of African History* 29(1): 5-18. Different sections of the Agaw (Agau) seem to have constituted an important part of the population occupying the highland interior of northern Ethiopia from ancient times. Establishing the great Zagwe dynasty (to ca. 1270), they transmitted the institutions and traditions of Axum almost intact to later generations.


Wade, Nicholas. “DNA backs a Tribe’s Tradition of Early Descent from the Jews.” *New York Times*. Late Edition (East Coast), May 9, 1999, section 1, 9. A team of geneticists has found that many Lemba men carry in their male chromosome a set of DNA sequences that is distinctive of the cohanim, the Jewish priests believed to be the descendants of Aaron.
