

Two Thousand Seasons

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left universalism africacentric essays presents a defense of universalism as the foundation of moral and political
arguments and commitments consisting of five intertwined essays the book claims that centering such arguments

and commitments on a particular place in this instance the african world is entirely compatible with that foundational universalism ato sekyi otu thus proposes a less conventional mode of africacentrism one that rejects the usual hostility to universalism as an imperialist eurocentric hoax sekyi otu argues that universalism is an inescapable presupposition of ethical judgment in general and critique in particular and that it is especially indispensable for radical criticism of conditions of existence in postcolonial society and for vindicating visions of social regeneration the constituent chapters of the book are exhibits of that argument and question some fashionable conceptual oppositions and value apartheid this book will be of great interest to students and scholars in the fields of social and political philosophy contemporary political theory postcolonial studies african philosophy and social thought

in retracing some of the routes followed by west african literature in english over the course of the last three decades this book employs an original multidimensional approach whereby the three main genres narrative poetry and drama are considered in the light of their intricate web of fecund rapport and mutual influence authors such as tutuola armah aidoo and awoonor translated the fluid structures of orality into written prose and consequently infused their works with poetic and dramatic resonance thereby challenging the canonical dominance of social realism and paving the way for the birth of west african magical realism in laing okri and cheney coker starting in the 1970s poetry on stage has become a mainstream genre in ghana thanks to performances by okai anyidoho and acquah boundaries between literary theatre and other genres have undergone a similar dissolution in the affirmation of the concept of total art from efua sutherland to ben abdallah osofisan and others fertile crossings offers a study of these topics from various viewpoints blending in depth textual analysis with reflections on the political import of the works in question within the context of the present state of african societies all supported by interviews with most of the authors

this volume explores secularity in sub saharan africa an area long considered to be to quote john mbiti notoriously religious or lurking in the secular shadows our sources question these assumptions by showing how contemporary secularities in africa emerged from specific socio cultural histories and political conflicts and contestations as well as from colonial impositions and african interventions organised thematically the volume begins by showing how the constitutions of african post colonial states regulate religion with introductions providing the historical and political contexts of the specific configurations the next sections deal with religionisation and culturalisation the

basic processes of dealing with the african past and of reading african indigenous concepts vocabularies practices and symbols within the framework of religious secular distinctions we present sources debating the separation of religion and politics from african socialism atheist organisations and public debates two further sections deal with expressions of secularity in african literature and photography the last three sections share a regional focus on southern africa but tell rather different stories about the colonial formation and subsequent transformations of secularity

first published in 1985 this book is the result of a long series of meetings of the amsterdam work group for marxist anthropology extending over a number of years starting from 1977 it has some changes and expansions from the original dutch version

in an ancient world the senetha tribe once lived in prosperity scattered across a great continent but now their once beautiful land has transformed the trees are blackened and dry crops have failed water has dried up animals are escaping in large numbers and great herds have dwindled or been destroyed quite simply their world is dying tenashar a lean boy on the cusp of adulthood has just been appointed by the tribal council to find the solutions as to what is ailing his environment all he knows is that orbs biological machines built by a previous civilization are draining the life force from his land led by his determination to find the answers and weave the fabric of his destiny tenashar sets out across the continent and oceans where he must learn to rely not only on himself but the wisdom of others such as nainashari a wise man whose home is a cave of wonders as he attempts to uncover the truth and understand how to deal with the orbs a journey of a thousand seasons shares the compelling tale of a young mans coming of age journey as he searches for his identity and learns how to build a new life for his people

existentialism is a philosophy that flourishes in extreme situations identified with the period of the french resistance when frenchmen were held as political prisoners by the germans existentialism with its call for an uncompromised allegiance to a leftist system of values served to boost the sagging morale of french political prisoners who had witnessed during the occupation the subversion of their nation s democratic principles by german totalitarianism the author finds in post independence ghana another example of an extreme situation which has given rise to the existentialist patterns in the novels of the ghanaian author ayi kwei armah the identification of a crisis situation in post independence ghana comparable to that created by the german occupation of france during world war ii

serves largely as the basis for the examination of the recurrent existentialist patterns this book explores the existential angst of the artist hero and the necessity of revolt to combat the despair which comes from recognition of his superfluousness works by the Ghanaian author Ayi Kwei Armah as well as by the French authors Albert Camus Jean Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir are the focus of study

in a major publishing project all of Brian Aldiss' 300 short stories are being collected together for the first time

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