

Review of: "Kingship, Karaole and the Question of Loyalty in Colonial Akoko-Yoruba, 1900-1960"

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The article enriches our understanding of traditional institutions in Akoko-Edo. The author deployed insider knowledge to illuminate our understanding of the intricacies of traditional institution politics in the colonial period. How the institution has been able to adapt to the vagaries of colonialism is remarkable. However, the author deployed two well-known concepts in Yoruba sociological thought to explain the dynamics of kingship in Akoko-Edo, north-east of Yorubaland. The idea of Karaole and that of Alajobi. These are two unrelated concepts in Yorubaland (See N.A Fadipe, *The Sociology of the Yoruba*). The idea of Alajobi simply emphasizes the notion of family bonds as against the institutional kingship connotations as emphasized by the author. On the other hand, Karaole is a form of greeting among the Yoruba generally. It is a form of greeting associated with elders, royalty, and the military class. The author failed to utilize various scholarly articles and archival materials both at the National Archives in Ibadan and Kaduna in Nigeria. The article is sometimes general in its claims and lacks particularity in evidence. It is an unfinished paper that needs consultation with other sources.