

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

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This paper is a comprehensive exploration of the evolution of kingship and traditional political institutions in Akoko-Yoruba, within the broader context of Yorubaland and Nigeria. It clearly demonstrates the dynamics of power, loyalty, and cultural practices before, during, and after the colonial period. The author has commendably covered a wide historical span and traced the transformations of the kingship institution from its pre-colonial roots through the colonial era and into the modern day. This longitudinal approach is crucial for appreciating the complexity and continuity of these institutions. A recurring theme in the work is the adaptability and resilience of traditional institutions in the face of external pressures and internal changes. The author effectively illustrates how these institutions have not only survived but also evolved in response to challenges.

A more detailed exploration of the economic and social transformations accompanying colonial rule and their impact on traditional institutions would enrich the analysis of the study. More so, there is the need for balancing perspectives. While the adaptability and resilience of the kingship institution are emphasized, including critical perspectives on the challenges and limitations faced by these institutions in the modern era would provide a more balanced view. Overall, the paper provided a nuanced understanding of the evolution of kingship and traditional political institutions in Akoko-Yoruba. The work is a significant contribution to Yoruba and colonial studies.