

*This is a fresh and highly informative volume which highlights the diversity and complexity of African New Religious Movements outside the African continent. The authors provide penetrating and provocative insights into African New Religious Movements, confounding earlier interpretations of African religions as exclusively 'African' phenomena. I recommend this volume very strongly to scholars and students of religion, Africanists, anthropologists and general readers.*

Ezra Chitando, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe

*This volume provides a valuable set of studies of diasporic African new religious movements (whether Christian, Islamic, Jewish or African-derived) from Europe and North America to Brazil and China. But perhaps its principal contribution is the focus on the public representation and recognition of these burgeoning movements, a perception that is largely negative. The contributors – both scholars and religious practitioners – provide important insights on the interactions between these religious communities and their host societies.*

Rosalind I.J. Hackett, University of Tennessee, USA

The growing pace of international migration, technological revolution in media and travel generate circumstances that provide opportunities for the mobility of African new religious movements (ANRMs) within Africa and beyond. ANRMs are furthering their self-assertion and self-insertion into the religious landscapes of Europe, the Americas and Asia. Their growing presence and public visibility seem to be more robustly captured by the popular media than by scholars of NRMs, historians of religion and social scientists, a tendency that has probably shaped the public mental picture and understanding of the phenomena. This book provides new theoretical and methodological insights for understanding and interpreting ANRMs and African-derived religions in diaspora.

Contributors focus on individual groups and movements drawn from Christian, Islamic, Jewish and African-derived religious movements and explore their provenance and patterns of emergence; their belief systems and ritual practices; their public/civic roles; group self-definition; public perceptions and responses; tendencies towards integration/segregation; organisational networks; gender orientations and the implications of interactions within and between the groups and with the host societies. The book will include contributions from scholars and religious practitioners, thus offering new insights into how ANRMs can be better defined, approached, and interpreted by scholars, policy makers, and media practitioners alike.

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