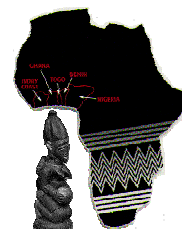




THE CUBAN INSTITUTE OF ANTHROPOLOGY



INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN:

IV International Colloquium about Research of Afro-American Religions "Presence and significance of Ekpe and Abakuá societies in Cuba and America"

**Dedicated to the cultural influence of Nigeria in the Americas.
May 25th to 28th, 2011**

First Circular

Dear Colleagues,

The organizing committee of the **IV International Colloquium about Research in Afro-American Religions**, through this circular invites all anthropologists, specialists, related researchers, scholars and religious persons, to participate in this event to be held in Havana, in the headquarters of the Cuban Institute of Anthropology, from May 25th to 28th next year.

Once again, it seeks to consolidate a space for exchanging knowledge and experiences on research and studies that have as its focus the diversity of religious forms, religions and cultural modes of recorded African history in America as a result of the colonial process. This time it will focus the discussion to the presence and meanings of traditional religious societies of southern Nigeria, Calabar region, that evolved in the semi-secret and religious groups called Abakuá in Cuba. The cultural influence of these

societies in the American context as a result of successive migrations to different latitudes, will receive attention in the event as a way to establish the concepts that allow from these "societies" the development of human being-nature biopsychosocial equilibrium.

It is an opportunity to constitute several spaces for reflection and debate among scholars and researchers of the intangible and material cultural heritage contained in religions and in the cultural practice of the religious person with these beliefs.

It will also allow to initiate dialogical approaches on the religious cultural practice that it's developing today in different latitudes under the Caribbean and Latin American influence, to encourage integration frameworks at the level of the regional area we live in, convinced that the development of cognitive abilities in this area may become a strategic point for the delineation of an integrating policy and of own nature from the Latin American cultural geography. That also is the reason why in the IV Symposium will be formed the **Regional Group of Afro-American Religious Studies (GRERA) attached to the Cuban Institute of Anthropology**

Thematic Categories:

1. Notions of the religious societies Ekpe of Calabar and Abakuá in Cuba. Their ties with other Afro-American Religions. Major trends and approaches.
2. Experiences in the recognition of Afro-American cultural practices. Major problems and trends in the vision of Africa.
3. Scientific research applied to the study of African-American immaterial and tangible cultural heritage. The Afro-American culture and its reflection on the praxis of Science and Culture.
4. Education and training for the preservation and rescue of the Afro-American Cultural Heritage.
5. Environment in the Afro-American cultural practice. Practical problems. Education for cultural praxis.
6. Afro-American Cultural History. Main research topics. Image of the African descent and social problems that it entails.
7. African-American culture and sociocultural resistance. Contemporary ethnographic studies.
8. The African Diaspora in Latin America and the Caribbean.
9. Transnationalization and dissemination of Afro-American religions. Study cases in situational anthropology.

As part of the activities scheduled for the *IV International Colloquium on Afro-American Religions Research* there will be held:

1. Constituent meeting of the **Regional Group of Afro-American Religious Studies (GRERA) attached to the Cuban Institute of Anthropology**
2. Ethnographic audiovisual presentation on secret Abakuá societies in Cuba made by the Group of Afro-American Religions of the Cuban Institute of Anthropology.
3. Presentation of the photographic exhibition "Images of Abakuá" by Dr. Miguel Ángel García Velazco.

Sponsors:

- Cuban Institute of Anthropology.
- Social Science Council; Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment

- Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development.

Co-sponsors:

- Office of the Historian of Havana.
- UNESCO Regional Office for Culture in Latin America.
- Regional network of institutions and researchers of Afro-American religions.
- Foundation "Fernando Ortiz".
- Africa House of the Office of the Historian of Havana.
- UNESCO Cuban National Commission.
- Yoruba Cultural Association of Cuba.
- Swiss Cooperation for Development (COSUDE).
- Higher Studies School of Hotel Trade and Tourism.
- Embassy of the Republic of Nigeria.

Profile of participants: There will be accepted contributions from specialists in all fields of social sciences and other disciplines that with their contributions enrich the debate on the topics of the Colloquium.

Modes of presentation:

Master lectures by invitation: 30 minutes

Round tables: 90 minutes

Workshops: 90 minutes

Free presentations: 15 minutes

Posters: They shall be made in a format that does not exceed 120 cm high by 90 cm wide.

Videos: 20 minutes of exposure. VHS format in NTSC 3.58 system

The debate will be based on the topics announced without giving up to provide the stage for others that are proposed to the Organizing Committee.

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to make the organization of workshops, bringing together communications according to their content. Similarly to reject any work not related to the thematic modules

Submission of abstracts:

- It will be accepted a paper as first author and another as co-author.
- Abstracts will have the following format: title (in capital letters, centered and not more than 20 words), author(s), underline the presenter's name, institution(s), email, country and topic to the proposed inclusion of work, mode of presentation and necessary audiovisual equipment.
- Each abstract should not exceed 250 words in Arial 12 font; single spaced, prepared with Word text processor, version 6.0 or higher and must include: introduction, objectives, methods, and conclusions. The summary will not contain quotes or bibliography references.
- Only papers in which the first authors have covered the corresponding registration fee could be presented in the congress

Abstracts should be sent, along with the registration voucher by email to: antropol@ceniai.inf.cu

Deadline for receipt:

March 15th 2011

Publication of memoirs:

The papers presented at the event may be published on a CD. They must be submitted complete and reviewed the spelling with a maximum of 25 pages (letter size 216 x 279 mm), in Arial 12, with 1.5 spacing between lines, bibliography, charts and tables included, as word processing Word 6.0 or superior. Failure to comply with these rules will not be admitted.

Full papers should be sent by email to: antropol@ceniai.inf.cu

Deadline for receipt:

March 30th 2011

The official languages are Spanish, English and Portuguese. It will be provided simultaneous translation at the request of the participant.

Registration fees

Payment of the conference registration fee will be made directly at the headquarters of the Cuban Institute of Anthropology at the time of registration or sent to the bank account that will be entitled to such intentions.

Foreign Delegates: \$ 100,00 CUC or 120 USD

Cuban delegates: \$100,00 CUP

Prices of registration fees include:

Delegates: Badge, participation in scientific activities, documentation, attendance and author certificates, welcome cocktail, coffee breaks, cultural gala and farewell dinner.

Registration fee and other payments to be made in Cuba will be made in **Cuban Convertible Pesos (CUC)**, the official currency in the country. This can be obtained on arrival in Cuba at the airport or at hotels, banks and exchange houses at the rate of exchange prevailing on that day.

The exchangeable currencies are: EUR, USD, Canadian dollars, Mexican pesos, British pounds and Swiss francs.

Access to Cuba

To provide accommodation in Cuba, please contact:

Paradiso Travel Agency.

Telephone: (53 7) 836-2124 (direct).

Fax: (53 7) 33-3921

E-mail: eventos@paradis.artex.cu

E-mail: ventas4@paasradis.artex.cu

Phone: (537) 870 46 67

(537) 870 05 84

Hotel Offer:

PRICE PER PERSON PER NIGHT, IN USD

HOTEL	CAT	SGL	DBL	SUPPL. DINNER
NACIONAL DE CUBA	4*	75.00	50.00	18.00
VEDADO	3*	33.00	23.00	9.00
ST. JOHN'S	3*	33.00	23.00	9.00
VICTORIA	4	49.00	34.00	12.00

Services included in the price:

1. Accommodation & breakfast.
2. Transfers airport - hotel - airport with specialized guide.
3. Daily transfer from Hotel to event venue and return to the hotel at the end of the afternoon sessions.
4. Participation in the Closure Activity.
5. Specialized care.

Services on request:

1. Supplementary dinner per person per day.

Moreover, in our capital city there is also the possibility of accommodation in licensed private homes to provide accommodation in areas close to the Cuban Institute of Anthropology, with a fee of between \$ 25.00 and \$ 40.00 CUC per day.

Interested parties requiring letters of invitation or flying visa, to make travel arrangements, may apply to the Organizing Committee to the Executive Secretary, through Aylin Martinez Rego, specifying the request. antropol@ceniai.inf.cu

Colloquium Venue

The **Cuban Institute of Anthropology** is a leading institution in the country specializing in the research and implementation of community studies. For the second time the Working Group DRAAC on the Community organizes this event of unquestionable prestige in Cuba. It has highly qualified professionals with an

integrated infrastructure for conference rooms of different formats, all equipped with advanced technologies.

HONOR COMMITTEE

Dr. Eusebio Leal Spengler

Historian of Havana.

Dr. Miguel Barnet

President of the “Fernando Ortiz” Foundation.

Dr. Miguel Limia David

President of the Social Sciences Council of CITMA

Organizing Committee

Chair:

Jesús Rafael Robaina Jaramillo

Vice Chairman:

Yumei de Isabel Morales Labañino

Scientific Secretariat:

Dulce María O’Halloran

Rolando Zulueta Zulueta

Ivon Cruz Barsó

Dimitri Prieto Samsonov

Mario G. Castillo Santana

Marlen Monyterrey Fuentes

Lázaro Pijuán Torres

Executive Secretariat:

Aylin Martínez Rego.

Yanet VeitíaFenti

Maria Luisa Serrano Camejo.

Isis María Fernández Artiles.

Jorge Rodríguez Pillot.

Scientific Advisory Committee

Jesús Guanche (Cuba)
 Rosa María de Lahaye (Cuba)
 Leif Korzbaek (Mexico)
 Alberto Granado Duque (Cuba)
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 Lioba Rossbach (Germany)
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 Ileana Hodge Limonta (Cuba)
 Sergio Valdés Bernal (Cuba)
 José Matos Arévalos (Cuba).
 Aníbal Arguelles (Cuba)

REGISTRATION FORM**Personal Data**

First Name(s)	Last Name(s)
Nationality	Home Address
Profession	Location

Institutional data

Institution that represents	
Institution Address	
Telephone:	
E-mail:	
Fax:	
Postal Code:	
City:	
Country:	

Mark with an X the type of participation based on your interest

Speaker	Lecturer	Participant	Poster

Following express the title of your presentation (after selecting the thematic content of the Colloquium)

Means necessary for the presentation:
Need for translation:
Language:

The Organizing Committee welcomes the submission of this form with the abstract attached before March 15th, 2009, electronically, to the following address: antropol@ceniai.inf.cu

Remember to send this form with your summary (summaries)

For more information contact:

Aylin Martínez Rego
Executive Secretariat:
Cuban Institute of Anthropology.
P. O. Box 10100
Havana, Cuba
Phone (53 7) 860 78 24
antropol@ceniai.inf.cu

Bach. Yumei I. Morales Labañino
Scientific Secretariat:
Cuban Institute of Anthropology.
Calle Amargura 203 entre Habana y
Aguiar, Habana Vieja,
Ciudad de La Habana 10100. Cuba
Phone (53 7) 860 78 36
ican@ceniai.inf.cu

Scientific correspondence:

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 Vice-President of the Organizing Committee
 Cuban Institute of Anthropology.
 Calle Amargura 203 entre Habana y Aguiar, Habana Vieja,
 Ciudad de La Habana 10100. Cuba
 Phone (537)
 Or email to: antropol@ceniai.inf.cu
ican@ceniai.inf.cu

Websites with more information:**GENERAL INFORMATION****WEATHER OF CUBA**

Cuba's weather is subtropical, humid and warm with an average yearly temperature of 25 degrees Celsius and relative humidity of 75 percent. There are two clearly defined seasons: a dry season from November to April and a rainy season from May to October. The coldest months are January and February with an average temperature of 20 degrees Celsius, and the hottest July and August, with more than 30 degrees Celsius. During the dry season, the masses of cold air - known as "cold fronts" - moving with fine rain from the northwest over the western part of the island are most commonly found between December and February.

**VENUE**

The venue is the building on Calle Amargura 203 between Habana and Aguiar streets, old Havana, 10100 located in the Historic Center of the City and in whose facilities will be held all sessions. It has 5 conference rooms, 1 small meeting room and several exhibition areas. The site is also the headquarters to the Cuban Institute of Anthropology, institution sponsoring the Colloquium.

**OFFICE OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

The Organizing Committee and the Scientific Committee are located in office 216 on the second floor of the building.

INFORMATION OFFICE



During the days of the event will run an Information Desk that is located in the lobby of the Cuban Institute of Anthropology, adjacent to Room 1. Telephone 860 78 24 and the one in the library, where you can ask for any information.

MEDICAL POST



The medical station will provide service throughout the event while in session. It'll be located on the second floor, room 217, telephone: 860 78 16.

TOURISM BUREAUS



Tourism bureaus lie in the different areas of the Office of the Historian of the City, in the Historic Center and the hotels where participants will be accommodated, which can ask for reservations to visit resorts and other attractions.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE

It'll lie on the second floor, office 218, and provide email services, sales of stamps, international phone calls.



AUDIOVISUAL

Slide projector 35 mm
VHS VCR (NTSC Standard 3.58)
Computer Data Projector

Power Point presentations and videotapes that accompany the papers must be submitted by the speakers to Yumei I. Morales Labañino a day before presentation and at the time at which the event is in session. They will not be accepted in the Working Rooms. The speaker can review and verify the proper order, placement and quality of its presentation, along with the technician and in Room 218 before exposure in the Room.



**Original Idea and Organizers of the Colloquium:
WORKING GROUP OF THE SCIENTIFIC PROJECT
RELIGIOUS DISCOURSE OF AFRICAN HISTORY IN CUBA.**