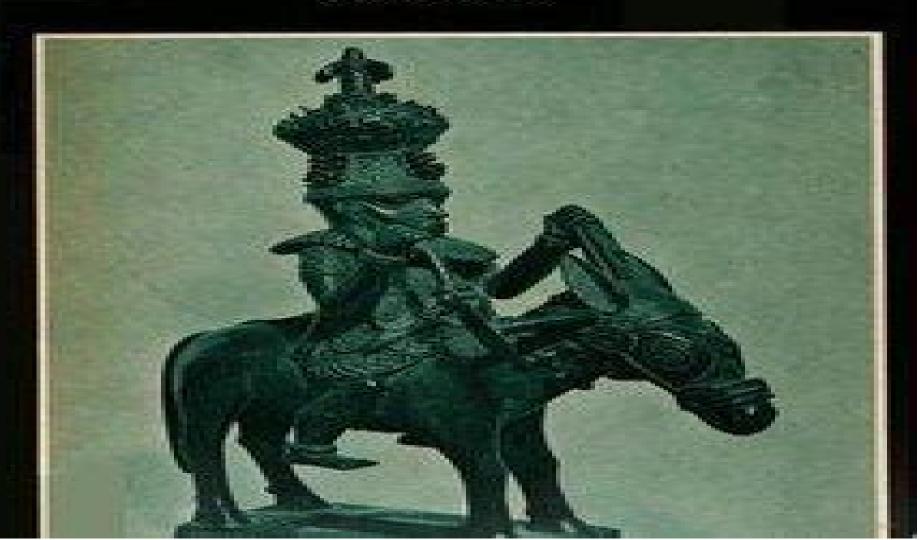
Technology, Tradition and the State in Africa

Jack Goody



Technology Tradition And The State In Africa

John R. Goody

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States and Power in Africa Jeffrey Herbst, 2014-12-21 Theories of international relations assumed to be universally applicable have failed to explain the creation of states in Africa There the interaction of power and space is dramatically different from what occurred in Europe In States and Power in Africa Jeffrey Herbst places the African state building process in a truly comparative perspective Herbst s bold contention that the conditions now facing African state builders existed long before European penetration of the continent is sure to provoke controversy for it runs counter to the prevailing assumption that colonialism changed everything This revised edition includes a new preface in which the author links the enormous changes that have taken place in Africa over the past fifteen years to long term state consolidation The final chapter on policy prescriptions has also been revised to reflect the evolution of African and international responses to state failure West Africa During the Atlantic Slave Trade Christopher DeCorse, 2016-10-06 West Africa during the Atlantic Slave Trade

surveys archaeological data from Senegal to the Cameroon It focuses on the past 500 years a period that witnessed dramatic transformations in African political and social systems as well as the consequences of European expansion the advent of the Atlantic slave trade and the expansion of Islamic polities in the West African Sahel The geographical and topical scope of this volume draws together archaeological syntheses of various parts of West Africa and is an important resource for West Africanists and all researchers interested in the indigenous response to European expansion as well as for those examining African continuities in the Americas **Early State Dynamics** Pieter van de Velde, Henri J. M. Claessen, 2023-12-14 This book is about the dynamics of the Early State It is based on new theoretical insights into the evolution of socio political organizations and on a number of carefully selected case studies The dynamic aspects of the Early State considered here are the changes and transformations that occur in the socio political organization once the Early State has come into existence

Pan-African Futurism Reginold A. Royston, 2025-10-21 Ghana has been a crucial site of encounters between the West and Africa and a historic center for twentieth century Pan African independence movements Today it has also emerged as an important node of technology driven development in the Global South Ghana's activist software developers and digital diaspora are redefining the role of technology not simply as a means for economic growth but as a tool for greater African political autonomy In this rich ethnography Reginold A Royston uses the term Pan African futurism to describe the redemptive ethos among technologists working on development projects on the ground in Africa today Royston charts the explosion of mobile Internet access on the African continent growing interest in African tech entrepreneurship and the flowering of digital transnational ties Ghana's Pan African futurists advocate entrepreneurship and civil society activism as a means of hacking the kinds of socioeconomic development that have long been advocated by NGOs Using participant observation and interviews with tech developers on the ground and media producers in the diaspora including in virtual spaces and with communities online Royston provides a nuanced portrait of tech users focused on social good emanating from the Global South expanding the discourse for contemporary Pan African politics An Anatomy Of Ghanaian Politics Naomi Chazan, 2019-02-28 The paths of African states have diverged markedly since the termination of colonial rule Nevertheless Ghana the first African state to achieve independence epitomizes both the political gyrations and the overall stagnation common to many other countries on the continent This work concentrates on the 1969 1982 period in Ghana focusing on two interrelated facets of African politics the decline of state power and authority and adjustments to political recession The author traces the dual patterns of diminution of the state and the adaptation of autonomous coping mechanisms in the separate spheres of political leadership political structures and institutions ideology and political economy The dynamic of state society interactions is then treated in terms of the rhythm of dissent conflict and disengagement Dr Chazan provides a comprehensive study of Ghanaian politics from the 1970s to the present By systematically analyzing the process of political decline and regeneration she highlights similar processes apparent elsewhere in Africa The stress on the

subtleties and direction of political change has important implications for policymakers and policy analysts alike The Military-State-Society Symbiosis Peter Karsten, 2013-12-16 These five volumes concern one of the most important institutions in human history the military and the interactions of that institution with the greater society Military systems serve nations they may also reflect them Soldiers are enlisted they may also be said to self select Military units have missions they also have interests In an older more traditional military history while the second reflects a newer approach Although each statement in the pairs may be said to be true the former speak from the framework of the military sciences the latter from the framework of the social and behavioral sciences. The military systems of our past differ from one another over time in political origins size missions and technological and tactical fashions but to a great extent their historical experiences have been more noticeably similar than they were different When we ask questions about the recruiting training or motivating of military systems or of those systems interactions with civilian governments and with the greater society as do the essays in these five volumes of reading on The Military and Society we are struck by the almost timeless patterns of continuity and similarity of experience In each of these volumes approximately half of the essays selected deal with the experience in the United States the other half with the experiences of other states and times enabling the reader to engage in comparative Our New Husbands Are Here Emily Lynn Osborn, 2011-10-10 In Our New Husbands Are Here Emily Lynn analysis Osborn investigates a central puzzle of power and politics in West African history Why do women figure frequently in the political narratives of the precolonial period and then vanish altogether with colonization Osborn addresses this question by exploring the relationship of the household to the state By analyzing the history of statecraft in the interior savannas of West Africa in present day Guinea Conakry Osborn shows that the household and women within it played a critical role in the pacifist Islamic state of Kankan Bat enabling it to endure the predations of the transatlantic slave trade and become a major trading center in the nineteenth century But French colonization introduced a radical new method of statecraft to the region one that separated the household from the state and depoliticized women's domestic roles. This book will be of interest to scholars of politics gender the household slavery and Islam in African history Nation-Building, Propaganda, and Literature in Francophone Africa Dominic Thomas, 2002-11-19 What characterizes the relationship between literature and the state Should literature serve the needs of the state by constructing national consciousness espousing state propaganda and molding good citizens Or should it be dedicated to a different kind of creative social endeavor In this important book about literature and the politics of nation building Dominic Thomas assesses the contributions of Francophone African writers whose works have played a key role in the recent transition to democracy in the Congo Exploring the works of Sony Labou Tansi Henri Lopes and Emmanuel Dongala among others Thomas highlights writers intimately involved with government and politics whether in support of the state s vision or with the intention of articulating a more open view of citizens and society Focusing on themes such as collaboration reconciliation identity history and memory Nation Building

Propaganda and Literature in Francophone Africa elaborates a broader understanding of the circumstances of African colonization modern African nation state formation and the complex cultural dynamics at work in Africa since independence

An Ethnography of a Vodu Shrine in Southern Togo Eric Montgomery, Christian Vannier, 2017-02-13 In this book Eric Montgomery and Christian Vannier provide an ethnographically informed text on the cultural meanings and practices surrounding the gods and metaphysics of Vodu as they relate to daily life in an ethnic Ewe fishing community on the coast of southern Togo The authors approach this spirit possession and medicinal order through shrine ethnography understanding shrines as parts of sacred landscapes that are ecological economic political and social Giving voice to practitioners and situating shrines and Vodu itself into the history and political economy of the region make this text pertinent to the social changes and global relevance of Millennial Africa **New Directions in African Military History** Timothy J. Stapleton, 2025-06-02 New Directions in African Military History takes a thematic approach to the history of war and military structures in Africa and highlights the under researched areas African Military History represents a relatively new and fast growing sub field bridging the previously wide gap between the well established genres of African History and Military History Based on a synthesis of existing literature and aimed at a wide readership this book adopts a broad temporal range and uses select examples to highlight a series of points to cover the pre colonial to post colonial eras and offer examples from various parts of the continent This volume evaluates controversial academic debates examining evidence research methods approaches and changing historiographical contexts as well as pointing to potential new areas of research It comprises seven thematic chapters on ways of war weapons technology navies air power battles women combatants and genocide in African history This volume will be of value to students and scholars alike interested in Modern History Military History and African History Administrative Culture in Developing and Transitional Countries Ishtiag Jamil, Steinar Askvik, Farhad Hossain, 2016-03-17 The book explores theoretical methodological and empirical underpinnings of administrative culture as well as prospects and challenges associated with it in the context of and across developing and transitional countries Referring to dominant norms and values in public organizations administrative culture is about the attitudes and perceptions of public officials In many countries civil servants are criticised for being corrupt incompetent unreliable and self centred Their attitudes norms and values and the way they act are in constant conflict with rule of law Recently the virtues of the Weberian model of bureaucracy have been reclaimed as an alternative to New Public Management NPM i e as a model which emphasizes impartiality rule following expertise and hierarchy rather than manipulation of incentive structures and market competition In particular it has been argued that a system of meritocratic recruitment and predictable long term careers increases the professional competence of the bureaucrats and fosters a culture of professionalism among them Still it is unclear how and under what conditions such a model can be adopted Among main hindrances seems to be established power structures and the existing political and societal culture which undermine the effective implementation of the Weberian

model This book was published a s aspecial issue of the International Journal of Public Administration A History of Modern Africa Richard J. Reid, 2012-01-17 Updated and revised to emphasise long term perspectives on current issues facing the continent the new 2nd Edition of A History of Modern Africa recounts the full breadth of Africa's political economic and social history over the past two centuries Adopts a long term approach to current issues stressing the importance of nineteenth century and deeper indigenous dynamics in explaining Africa's later twentieth century challenges Places a greater focus on African agency especially during the colonial encounter Includes more in depth coverage of non Anglophone Africa Offers expanded coverage of the post colonial era to take account of recent developments including the conflict in Darfur and the political unrest of 2011 in Egypt Tunisia and Libya Marx and Lenin in Africa and Asia Harry Verhoeven, 2021-11-29 The spectres of Marx and Lenin have long loomed prominently in Africa and Asia and they still do so in the 21st century Many of the founding fathers of postcolonial republics believed socialism could transform their societies Yet what socialism meant in theory and in practice has always been highly heterogeneous and differed markedly from the European experience African and Asian movements did not simply mimic the ideas and institutions of Soviet or European Marxists but endeavoured to define their own experimenting with a variety of interpretations and in the process adapting doctrines and templates to their unique contexts This volume brings together anthropologists historians and political scientists from around the world to reflect on three great challenges which various types of socialists in Africa and Asia have had to simultaneously contend with in their articulations of liberation how to build up empirical and juridical statehood how to forge a nation after colonial divide and rule and how to position themselves in an international order not of their making In a post colonial world this helps centre a key question running through the different chapters what can African and Asian imaginaries institutions and practices tell us about socialism as a global phenomenon The chapters in this book were originally published as a special issue of Third World Quarterly State, Class and Underdevelopment in Nigeria and Early Meiji Japan Sakah Saidu Mahmud, 2016-07-27 This book compares the social processes that explain Japanese development beginning with the Meiji Restoration in 1868 with similar processes in post independent Nigeria in its effort to achieve capitalist development Before the Restoration and independence both Japan and Nigeria lacked any prospects for further development Japan however pursued fundamental social transformations of society leading to capitalist development whereas Nigeria following independence has lacked any transforming ideals resulting in underdevelopment and social stagnation The Precolonial State in West Africa J. Cameron Monroe, 2014-06-09 This volume examines political life in the Kingdom of Dahomey located in the Republic of B nin

The Postcolonial African State in Transition Amy Niang, 2018-11-02 The Postcolonial African State in Transition offers a new perspective on a set of fundamental albeit old questions with salient contemporary resonance what is the nature of the postcolonial state How did it come about And more crucially the book poses an often neglected question what was the postcolonial African state internally built against Through

a detailed historical investigation of the Voltaic region the book theorizes the state in transition as the constitutive condition of the African state rendering centralization processes as always transient uncertain even dangerous endeavours In Africa and elsewhere in the colonial and postcolonial world the centralized sovereign state has become something of a meta model that bears the imprint of necessity and determinism This book argues that there is nothing natural linear conventional or intrinsically consensual about the centralized state form In fact the African state emerged and was erected against and at the expense of a variety of authority structures and forms of self governance The state has sustained itself through destructive practices internal colonization and in fact the production and alienation of a range of internal others

The Early State

Henri J. M. Claessen, Peter Skalnik, 2011-11-02 No detailed description available for The Early State

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