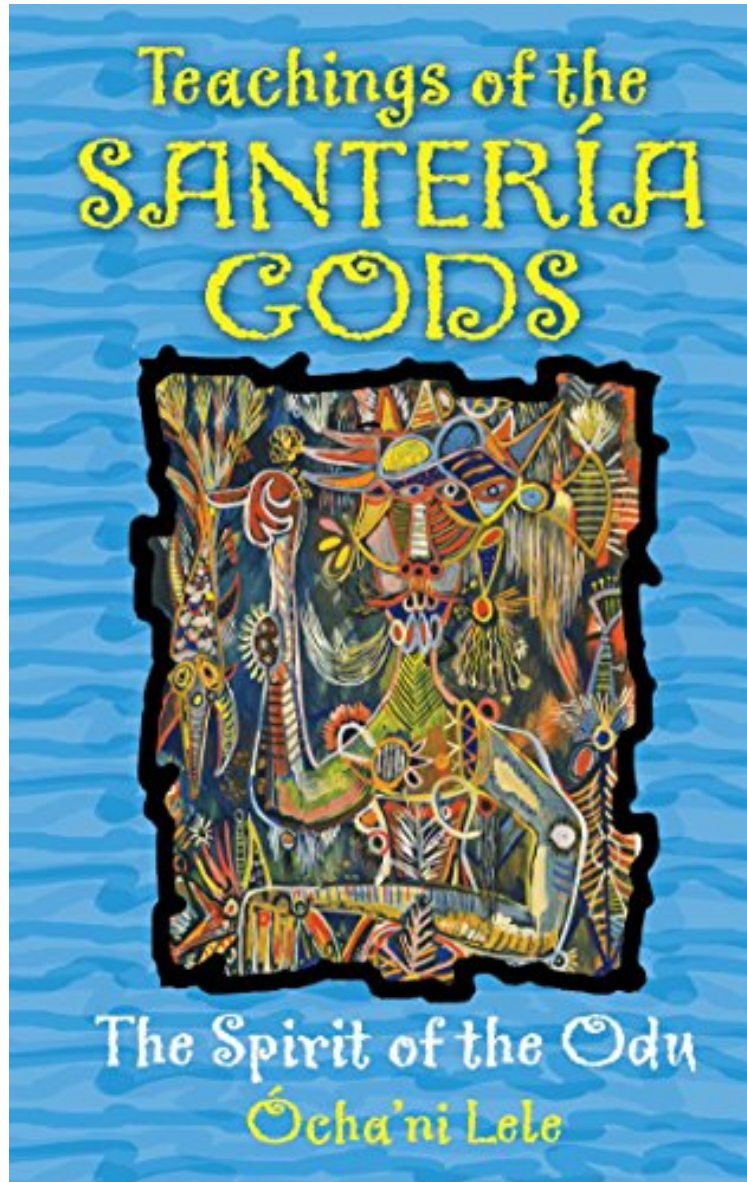


## Teachings of the Santera Gods: The Spirit of the Odu

*cha'ni Lele*

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**cha'ni Lele : Teachings of the Santera Gods: The Spirit of the Odu** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Teachings of the Santera Gods: The Spirit of the Odu:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerI love this book and all the teachings! There's nothing like this out there. Thank you!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great preservation of Yoruba patakBy Jonathan BakerOcha'ni Lele did a wonderful job of retelling many of the tales of the Odu during their lives on

earth. So many followers of the Lucumi faith only focus on the main Orisha and I think often forget about the lesser deities and even the important Odu individually. The author was able to handcraft an assortment of various stories on each one, maintaining some of the tribal, primitive elements while modernizing the stories all at the same time - making for a wonderful preservation of the Yoruba patak. I expect this book to be one handed down as a learning tool to each person who is to learn the ways of the religion in addition to learning the system of diloggun divination. The lively, easy to read stories, will capture newcomers and maybe even help exploit the Lucumi religion for the better. Thank you, Stuart, for your amazing contribution. I want an autographed copy ;)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful writing!

By JfinalI own several of Ocha'ni Lele's books and this has just become my favorite. By way of patakis, we gain knowledge and deeper understanding of the teachings of Santeria. The huge body of patakis have historically been passed from generation to generation verbally. As such, the risk of losing some is a real one. Thanks to Ocha'ni Lele, this risk has greatly been minimized. These stories allow the reader to contemplate the odu's deeper meanings, and to clearly see the beauty and depth of this religion and its teachings. Each body of odu is analyzed; out of many, many patakis, Ocha'ni shares the most important for each odu. By doing so, a picture is painted in the reader's mind which allows for a deeper understanding. This is a vital addition to my personal library. Thank you, Ocha'ni!!

The first book to explore the sacred myths of Santera Includes more than 100 myths, stories, and histories about the odu and the orishas Reassembles the oral fragments from the African diaspora into coherent stories Demonstrates that the African peoples, specifically the Yoruba, were deeply spiritual At the core of the diloggun--the sacred divination system of Santera--are the sacred stories known as the patakis, narratives whose themes are as powerful and relevant today as they were in the minds of the ancient Yoruba who safeguarded them. Each patak is connected to one or more of the 16 odu, the principal creative forces of Santera. Some recount the lives of orishas on earth, others the lives of individuals in heaven, and some tell of the odu themselves, for even they once walked the earth as mortals. The first book to explore these ancient African stories in English, Teachings of the Santera Gods recounts more than 100 of these sacred parables, including many stories reassembled from the oral tradition of the African diaspora. Ranging from creation myths to what happens when a love potion works far too well, these stories share the wisdom and spirituality of the Yoruba people of ancient Africa and form the living, oral bible of one of the worlds fastest-growing faiths.

There is no more magical way to feel close to the orishas than through the patakis. It is there that one is transported to ones imagination. chani Lele has a very spiritual manner in elevating my imagination through his writing, which reveals a special touch. Maferfun orichas! What is seen is not questioned! This is a special book for those of us who go forth from the heart, without malice. chani Lele, my dear, I congratulate you! (Ivy Queen, vocalist, musician, and Queen of Reggaeton) This book is a page turner. chani Lele relates these sacred stories with the ease of a knowledgeable narrator while drawing clarity and meaning out of the religions complex chorus of voices. This book moves the deep spirituality of the religion away from ethnography and connects the sacred to religious studies where it is well overdue. (Oba Ernesto Pichardo, Church of the Lukumi Babalu Aye) "If you have any interest in Santeria, or in a story well-told, then you should pick up Ocha'ni Lele's Teachings fo the Santeria Gods. Don't simply read it, savor it. Each of these stories is a gem worth examining, and Lele is the wise jeweler joyfully pointing out each facet." (Star Foster, Pantheon: The Pagan Blog at Patheos, September 2010) "For the first time, one hundred of the ancient African stories known as pataki have been made available in English. It was a gargantuan labor of love for the author." (Anna Jedrziewski, New Age Retailer, September 2010) "Loaded with stories that provide entertainment and unique perspectives, Teachings of the Santeria Gods is an excellent book for those looking to learn about Santeria or African folklore." (The Magical Buffet, October 2010) Two words sum up Teachings of the Santeria Gods: Spirit of the Odu . . . Beautifully Written. (Facing North, January 2011). . . well-written, informative, possessed of rare clarity, and a joy to read. (SpiralNature.com, May 2011) From the Back Cover SHAMANISM / INDIGENOUS CULTURES There is no more magical way to feel close to the orishas than through the patakis. It is there that one is transported to ones imagination. chani Lele has a very spiritual manner in elevating my imagination through his writing, which reveals a special touch. Maferfun orichas! What is seen is not questioned! This is a special book for those of us who go forth from the heart, without malice. chani Lele, my dear, I congratulate you! --Ivy Queen, vocalist, musician, and Queen of Reggaeton This book is a page turner. chani Lele relates these sacred stories with the ease of a knowledgeable narrator while drawing clarity and meaning out of the religions complex chorus of voices. This book moves the deep spirituality of the religion away from ethnography and connects the sacred to religious studies where it is well overdue. --Oba Ernesto Pichardo, Church of the Lukumi Babalu Aye At the core of the diloggun--the sacred divination system of Santera--are the sacred stories known as the patakis, narratives whose themes are as powerful and relevant today as they were in the minds of the ancient Yoruba who safeguarded them. Each patak is connected to one or more of the 16 odu, the principal creative forces of Santera. Some recount the lives of orishas on Earth, others the lives of individuals in Heaven, and some tell of the odu themselves, for even they once walked the earth as mortals. The first

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