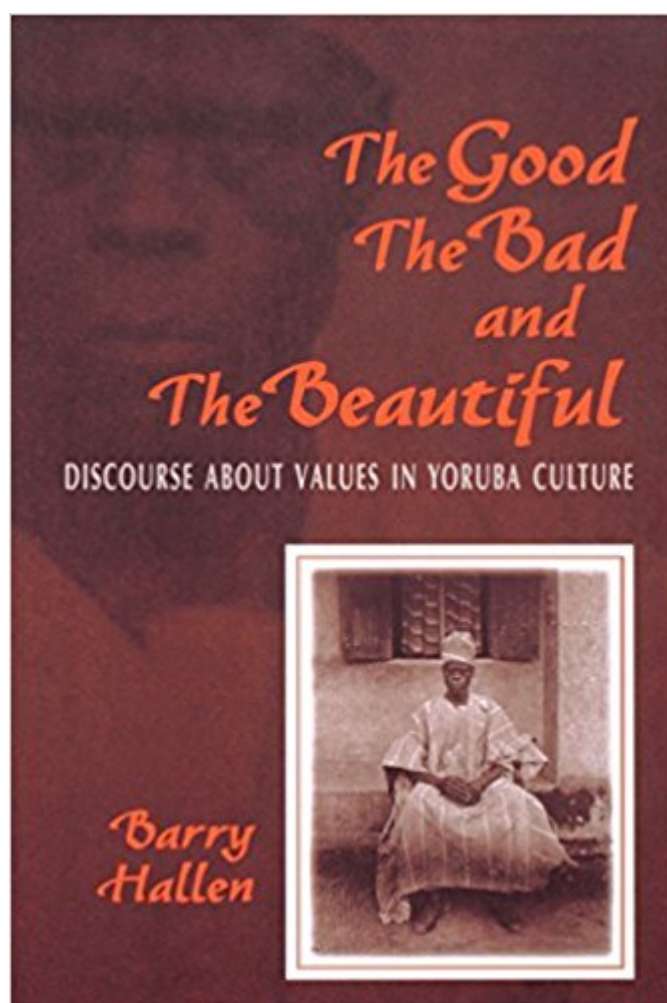


The book was found

The Good, The Bad, And The Beautiful: Discourse About Values In Yoruba Culture



Synopsis

The Good, the Bad, and the Beautiful Discourse about Values in Yoruba Culture Barry Hallen Reveals everyday language as the key to understanding morals and ethics in Yoruba culture. "This contrasts with any suggestion that in Yoruba or, more generally, African society, moral thinking manifests nothing much more than a supine acquiescence in long established communal values.... Hallen renders a great service to African philosophy." — Kwasi Wiredu In Yoruba culture, morality and moral values are intimately linked to aesthetics. The purest expression of beauty, at least for human beings, is to possess good moral character. But how is moral character judged? How do actions, and especially words, reveal good moral character in a culture that is still significantly based on oral tradition? In this original and intimate look at Yoruba culture, Barry Hallen asks the Yoruba *onisegun* — the wisest and most accomplished herbalists or traditional healers, individuals justly reputed to be well versed in Yoruba thought and expression — what it means to be good and beautiful. Posed as an outsider wanting to gain understanding of how to speak Yoruba correctly, Hallen engages the *onisegun* and has them explain the subtleties and intricacies of Yoruba language use and the philosophy behind particular word choices. Their instructions reveal a striking and profound depiction of Yoruba aesthetic and ethical thought. The detailed interpretations of everyday language that Hallen supplies challenge prevailing Western views that African thought is nothing more than acquiescence to long-established religious or communal values. The philosophy of ordinary language reveals that moral reflection is indeed individual and that evaluations of action and character take place on the basis of clearly and logically delineated criteria. With the *onisegun* as his guides, Hallen identifies the priorities of Yoruba philosophy and culture through everyday expression and shows that there are rational pathways to both truth and beauty. Barry Hallen has taught philosophy at the Obafemi Awolowo University (formerly University of Ife) in Nigeria. He is a Fellow at the W. E. B. DuBois Institute for Afro-American Research at Harvard University and Visiting Professor of Philosophy at Morehouse College. He is coauthor (with J. Olubi Sodipo) of *Knowledge, Belief, and Witchcraft: Analytic Experiments in African Philosophy*. Contents Ordinary Language and African Philosophy Moral Epistemology Me, My Self, and My Destiny The Good and the Bad The Beautiful Rationality, Individuality, Secularity, and the Proverbial Appendix of Yoruba-Language Quotations Glossary of Yoruba Terms

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Indiana University Press (December 22, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0253214165

ISBN-13: 978-0253214164

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.7 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #691,295 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in [African Books > History > Africa > Nigeria](#) #2575 in [African Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Anthropology > General](#) #3335 in [African Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Ethics & Morality](#)

Customer Reviews

"... an accurate portrayal of the conceptual nature of ordinary discourse about moral and aesthetic values in the Yoruba language ... Hallen renders a great service to African philosophy." --Kwasi Wiredu

Barry Hallen has taught philosophy at the University of Ile-Ife in Nigeria. He is a Fellow at the W. E. B. DuBois Institute for Afro-American Research at Harvard University and Visiting Professor of Philosophy at Morehouse College. He is co-author (with J. Olubi Sodipo) of *Knowledge, Belief, and Witchcraft: Analytic Experiments in African Philosophy*.

This book shares a candid dialogue with some of the spiritual leaders in different Yoruba communities. It does a good job of contextualizing the Yoruba's beliefs as being something other than mere superstition. Good starting point for African philosophy studies.

After having read Mr. Hallen's other work (*Knowledge and Belief of Witchcraft*) I was interested to read his newest work. I had been eagerly awaiting the release for months and it was worth the wait! Mr. Hallen expertly presents the values of the Yoruba culture as they relate to beauty and goodness. As a student and priest of Yoruba religious system, this book is a valuable addition to my library - an important step forward in my studies and the studies of anyone interested in this profound and sophisticated culture. I think this book is much better than his former volume and would HIGHLY recommend it to anyone who has an interest in learning more about the values and perspectives of the Yoruba people. I extend my thanks to Mr. Hallen, wish him much success and hope that he continues to study and share the world of the Yoruba with the rest of the world.

Very insightful. Difficult read for a science person but I learned a lot.

I really learnt a lot more about the Yorubas..Informativeinteresting However what happened to the his co-other (sodipo) there was no mention of him as he(Hallen) would have learnt a lot from his friend (sodipo) -a Yoruba man. Could they both write a follow up as it would be even better. Keep it up guys.....

This book examines the knowledge of the Yoruba people from their own way of expressing it. In order to know a people I think it's important to understand them from their own point of view. First rate scholarship.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Good, the Bad, and the Beautiful: Discourse about Values in Yoruba Culture Lab Values: 82 Must Know Lab Values for Nurses: Easily Pass the NCLEX with Practice Questions & Rationales Included for NCLEX Lab Values Test Success (Lab Values for Nurses, NCLEX Lab Values) Rousseau: The Basic Political Writings: Discourse on the Sciences and the Arts, Discourse on the Origin of Inequality, Discourse on Political Economy, ... Contract, The State of War (Hackett Classics) The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Cincinnati Reds: Heart-Pounding, Jaw-Dropping, and Gut-Wrenching Moments from Cincinnati Reds History (The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly) (The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly) The Good, the Bad & the Ugly Philadelphia Flyers: Heart-pounding, Jaw-dropping, and Gut-wrenching Moments from Philadelphia Flyers History (Good, the Bad, & the Ugly) (Good, the Bad, & the Ugly) The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Cleveland Indians: Heart-pounding, Jaw-dropping, and Gut-Wrenching Moments from Cleveland Indians History (The Good, ... and the Ugly) (The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly) School Discourse: Learning to Write Across the Years of Schooling (Continuum Discourse) Rousseau's Political Writings: Discourse on Inequality, Discourse on Political Economy, On Social Contract (Norton Critical Editions) Yoruba Dance : The Semiotics of Movement and Body Attitude in a Nigerian Culture Rich Dad's AdvisorsÂs The ABC's of Getting Out of Debt: Turn Bad Debt into Good Debt and Bad Credit into Good Credit The ABCs of Getting Out of Debt: Turn Bad Debt into Good Debt and Bad Credit into Good Credit (NONE) Rich Dad Advisors: The ABCs of Getting Out of Debt: Turn Bad Debt into Good Debt and Bad Credit into Good Credit (Rich Dad's Advisors (Audio)) The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Cincinnati Reds (The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly) The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly Cleveland Indians (The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly) The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly Kansas City

Chiefs (The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly) Bad Bad Bad Bad Boy Rebels: Meeting the Bad Boy Rebels (Bad Boy Rebels Series Book 1) Bad Boy Rebels: Bad Girl Training (Bad Boy Rebels Series Book 2) Nigeria in Perspective - Orientation Guide and Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba Cultural Orientation: Geography, History, Economy, Security, Kano, Kaduna, Slavery, Nollywood, Kanywood, Benue, Sokoto, Enugu Religious Encounter and the Making of the Yoruba (African Systems of Thought)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)