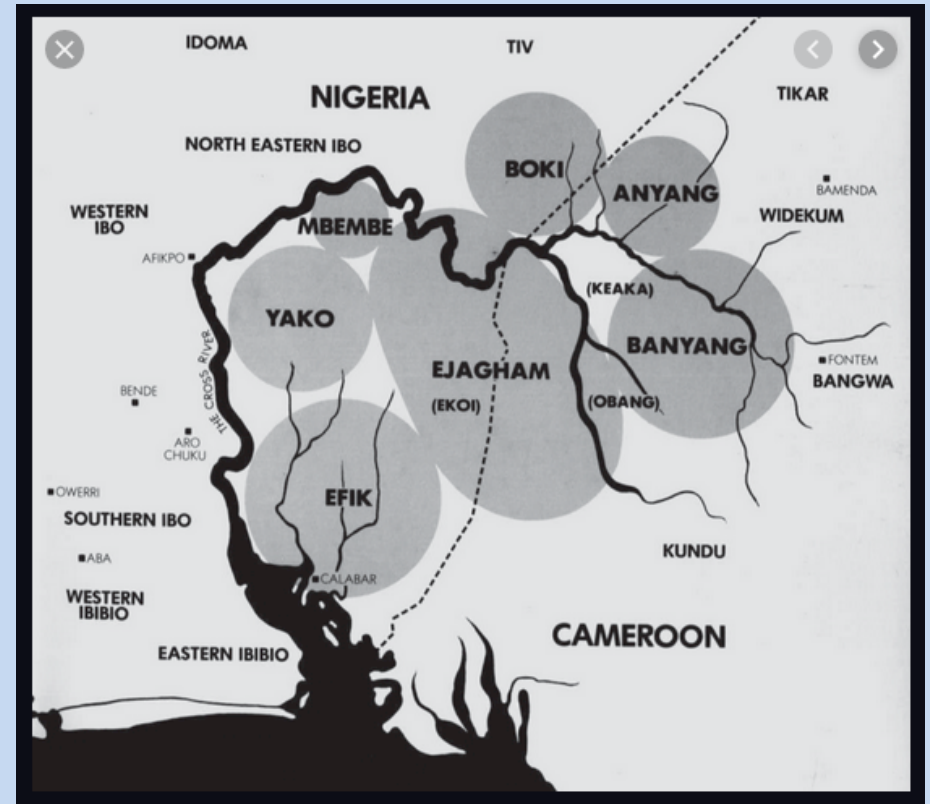


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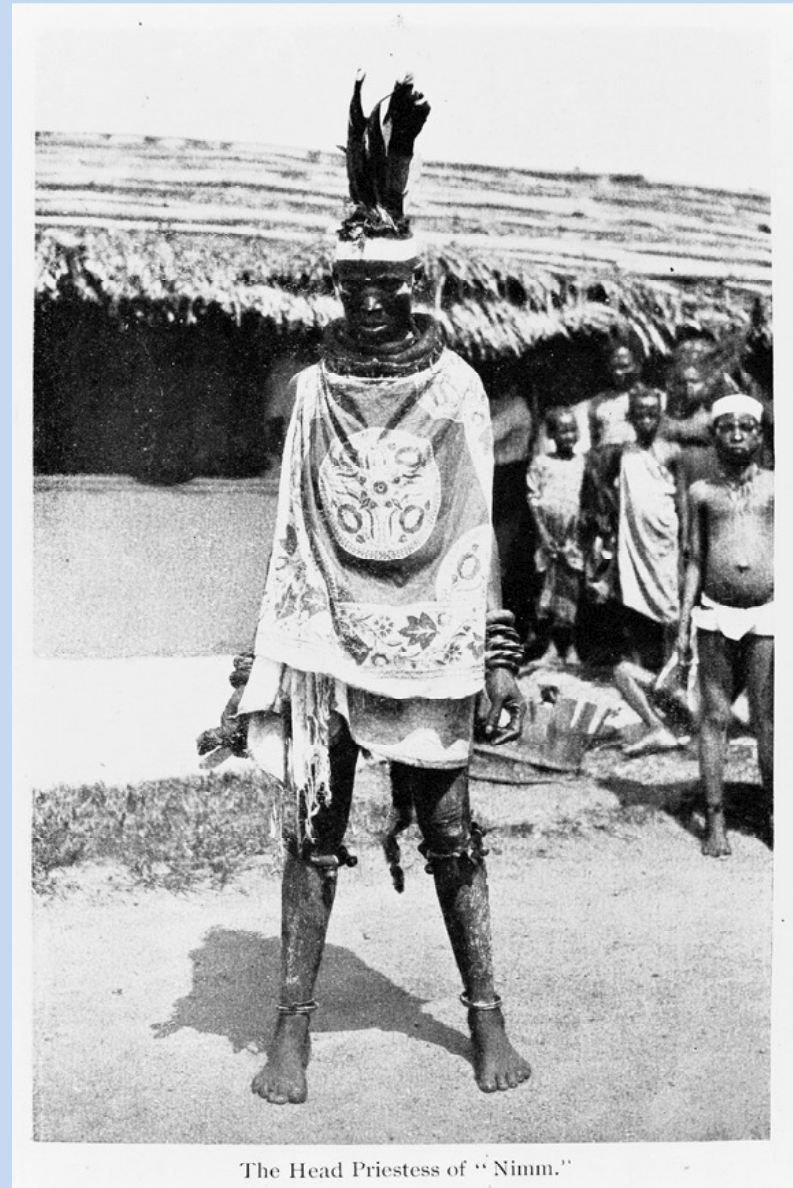
Nigeria's Cross River Cultures

**Wednesday,
September 11, 2019**





Left: Map of 19th century West Africa. Right: Map of the cultures of the Nigerian and Cameroonian Cross River area whose peoples were swept up during the transatlantic slave trade.



The Head Priestess of "Nimm."

Left: Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Photo of an Ekpe (or Men's Leopard Secret Society) masquerader, early 20th century. Right: Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Photo of a priestess of Nnimm (or the Women's Secret Society), early 20th century.



Left: Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Aban Women's Masquerade, 1957. Right: Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Ekpa-Nkim Women Masqueraders, 2000.



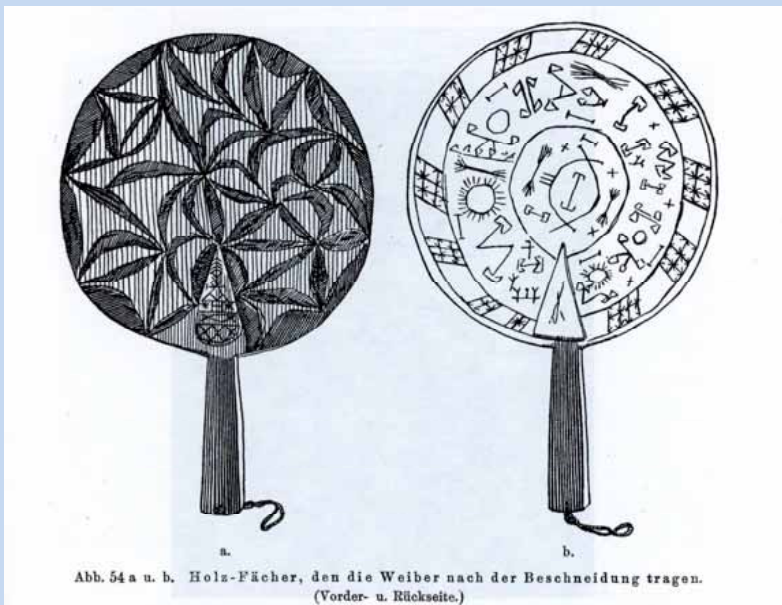
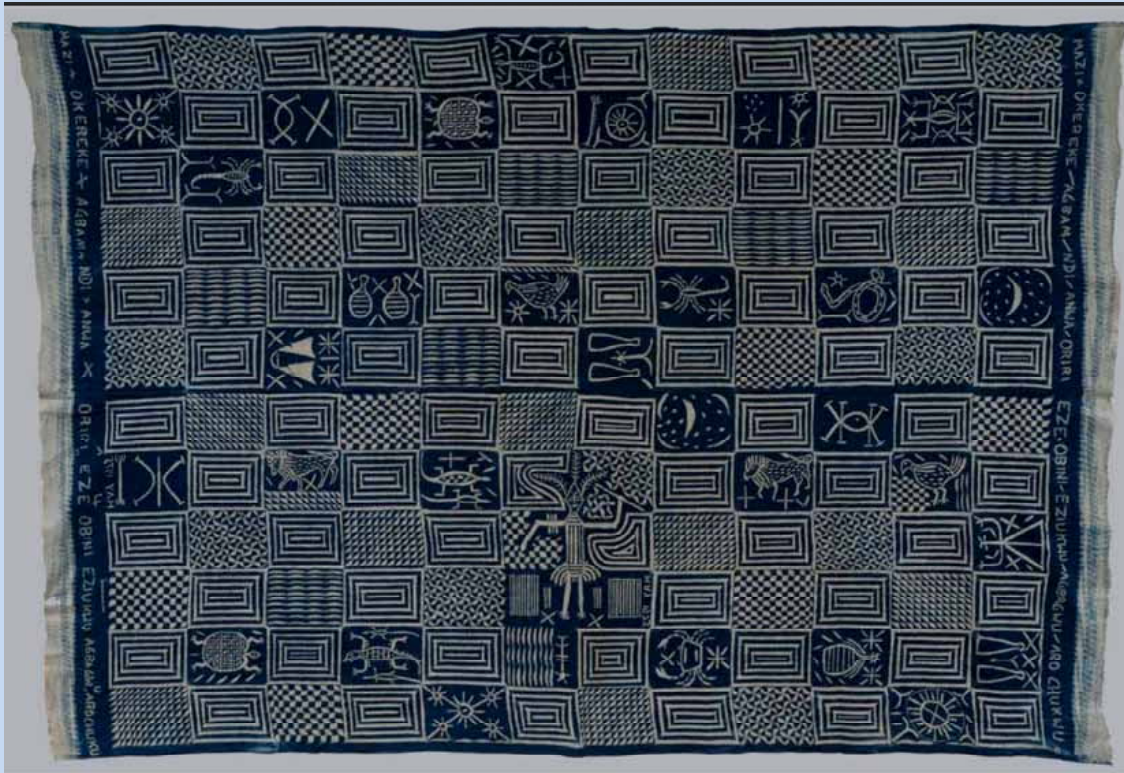
Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Women performing a Moninkim-style masquerade dance at the Calabar Carnival, early 21st century.



Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Egbo Men's Leopard Secret Society, early 20th century.



Left: Elliot Elisofon, Photo of Ekpe Men's Leopard Secret Society masqueraders, Big Qua Town, Nigeria, 1959. Right: Phyllis Galembo, Photo of Akata Dance Masquerader, Nigeria, circa 1990s.



Clockwise from lower left: Efik/Keaka peoples, Nigeria, Fan with nsibidi writing. Acquired 1909. Igbo peoples, Nigeria, Ukara cloth, 1972. Cotton, indigo dye. Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Helmet mask, Acquired 1942. Wood, animal skin, bone.



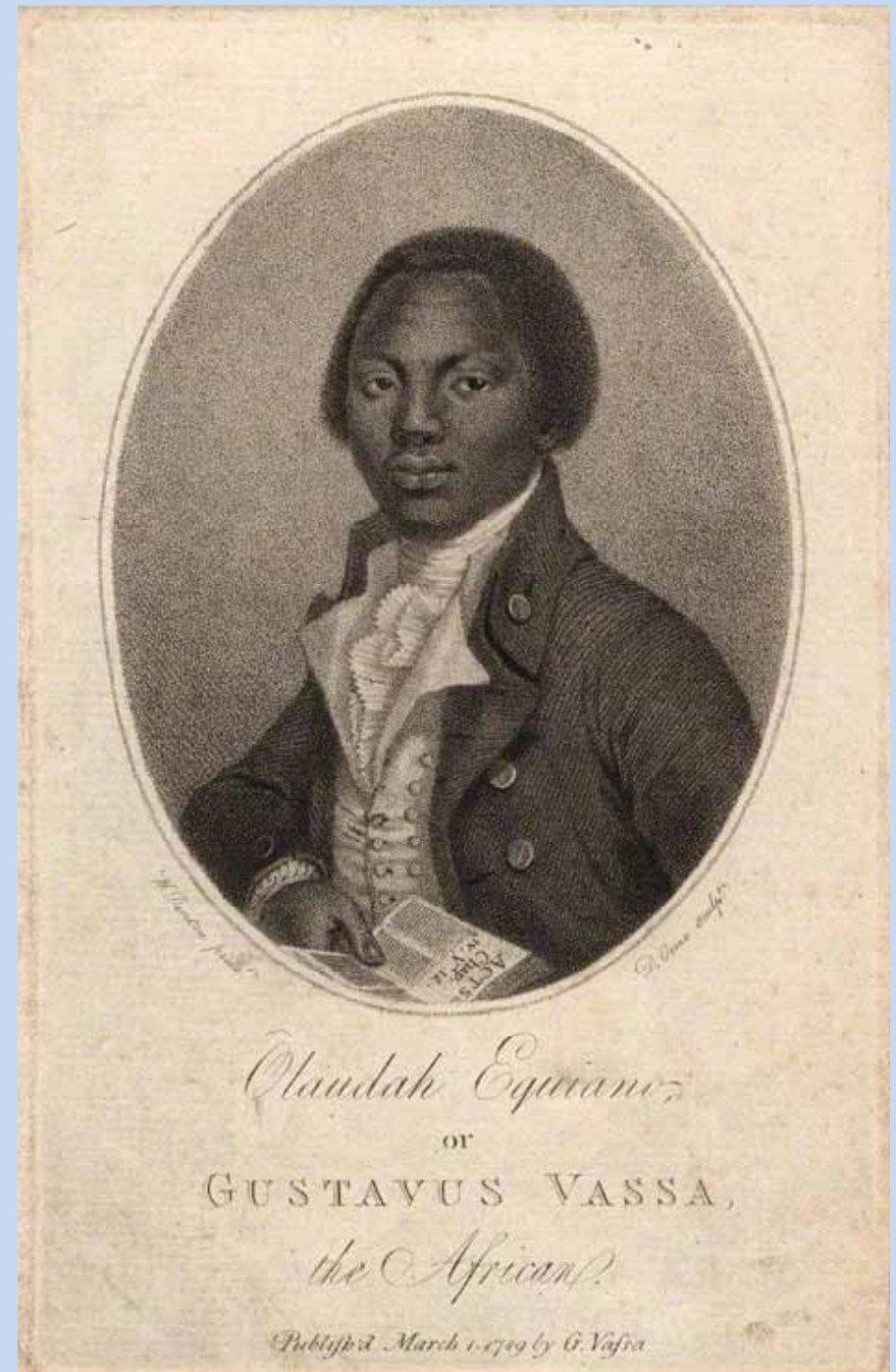
Efik peoples, Nigeria, Crest mask, early 20th century. Wood, animal skin, plant materials, bone, natural dye.



Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Emblem (nkpa) of the Leopard Spirit Society, 19th century. Wood, animal skulls, plant fiber, iron, pigment.

CHESTERFIELD, *December 13, 1773.*

RUN away from the Subscriber, on *Sunday* the 22d of *November*, a new Negro Fellow of small Stature, and pitted with the Smallpox; he calls himself **BONNA**, and says he came from a Place of that Name in the *Ibo* Country, in *Africa*, where he served in the Capacity of a Canoe Man; his Clothing is a new Felt Hat, new Cotton Waistcoat and Breeches, and new Shoes and Stockings; his Stockings were knit, and spotted black and white. Whoever secures him so that I get him shall have **TWENTY SHILLINGS** Reward, besides what the Law allows. (2h). **RICHARD BOOKER.**



Above & below: Runaway slave & slave sale advertisements, referencing “Ibo” or “Eboe” peoples, late 18th century. Right: Daniel Orme, Frontispiece for *The Life of Olaudah Equiano or Gustavus Vassa the African* (London, 1789).

Montego-Bay, Dec. 5, 1781.
FOR SALE,
 On **MONDAY** the 17th instant,
 ON BOARD THE SHIP
J A N E,
 JOHN HEWAN, Master,
 From **BONNY,**
 620 Choice Young **EBOE**
NEGROES.
 By **Jo. and JA. WEDDERBURN.**
 360 Martha-Brae, Nov. 30, 1781.



Above left: Ejagham peoples, Nigeria, Ekpe Leopard Secret Society Men's masquerade, 1930s. Below left: Frederic Mialhe, *El Dia de Reyes (The Holy Kings Day)*, Havana, Cuba, 1853. Chromolith.

