



She has landed many a thousand: African American Cultural Traditions In The Ol Ship of Zion

By Audrey Lawson Brown

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 118 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.3in. This book describes and attempts to explain the significance of women in roles of ritual authority as observed in Afro-Baptist rural folk church communities of North Central Florida beginning in 1980 and last observed in 2007. It advances intra cultural comparisons of rural Floridian folk Afro-Baptists and other Afro-Baptists in the North and South during the same time period. Gender-defined roles in Floridian Afro-Baptist churches and families emphasize matrifocal social organization, kinship ties, and the valorization of motherhood complemented by male corporate leadership. This book examines the transmission by African Americans, within their religion, of selected traditional African beliefs and practices that at once reflect and shape contemporary social reality to be harmonious with their core cultural values. Following Clifford Geertzs model of the dual nature of religious patterns, which simultaneously explain and shape reality, this book argues that Afro-Baptist womens church roles in Florida reflect and transmit African-derived cultural values and social forms that are materially significant to their day-to-day family life. Ethnohistorical and ethnographic data are presented that support this argument. The search for African continuities and transformations...



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