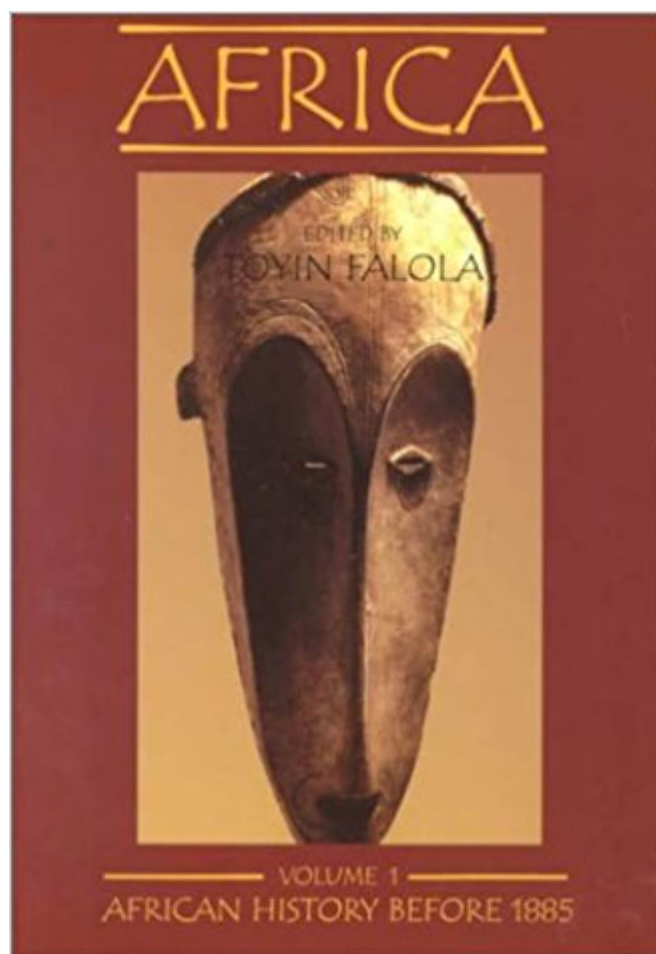


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Africa, Vol.1: African History Before 1885



Synopsis

Africa: Volume 1 begins a series of books which adopt a new perspective on African history and culture, surveying the wide array of societies and states that have existed on the African continent and introducing readers to the diversity of African experiences and cultural expressions. Toyin Falola has brought together African studies professors from a variety of schools and settings. Writing from their individual areas of expertise, these authors work together to break general stereotypes about Africa, focusing instead on the substantive issues of the African past from an African perspective. The texts are richly illustrated and include maps and timelines to make cultural and historical movements clearer, and suggestions for further reading will help readers broaden their own particular interests. Africa provides new perspectives that challenge the accepted ways of studying Africa, flexibility for instructors to structure courses, and encouragement for readers who are eager to learn about the diversity of the African experience. Volume 1, *African History Before 1885*, introduces students to the various precolonial histories of Africa. Instead of generalizing about the continent, the chapters reconstruct the histories of many different societies in various historical periods.

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Toyin Falola is the Frances Higginbotham Nalle Centennial Professor in History at the University of Texas, Austin. He is the 2002-2003 recipient of the Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award.

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