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**Muslim, Christian & Traditionalist Encounters in an African Town**

**Edited by INSA NOLTE, OLUKOYA OGEN AND REBECCA JONES**

In recent decades, religion has become an increasingly important factor of identification and political mobilisation. Based on an African case study, in the predominantly Muslim Yoruba town of Ede, this book calls for new ways of thinking about diversity that go “beyond religious tolerance”. The authors challenge the assumption that religious difference automatically leads to conflict: here, in south-west Nigeria, Muslims, Christians and traditionalists have co-existed largely peacefully since the early twentieth century. They examine how Ede’s citizens experience religious difference in their everyday lives, the town’s royal history and relationship with the deity Sàngó, its old Islamic compounds and its Christian institutions, as well as marriage and family life across religious boundaries, to illustrate the multiplicity of religious practices in the life of the town and its citizens and to suggest an alternative approach to religious difference

INSA NOLTE is Reader in African Studies at the University of Birmingham, and Visiting Research Professor at Osun State University, Osogbo. She is Principal Investigator of the ERC project “Knowing Each Other: Everyday Religious Encounters, Social Identities and Tolerance in Southwest Nigeria”. OLUKOYA OGEN is Provost of Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo; Professor of History at Osun State University, Osogbo; and Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the University of Birmingham. He is the Nigerian coordinator of the “Knowing Each Other” project. REBECCA JONES is Postdoctoral Research Fellow on the “Knowing Each Other” project. Her book, *A Cultural History of Nigerian Travel Writing*, will be published by James Currey in 2017.



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 RELIGION IN TRANSFORMING AFRICA

£45.00/\$80.00, January 2017  
 978 1 84701 153 4  
 15 b/w illus.; 336pp,  
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