

HISTORY OF TRADITIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA: PROBLEMATIC AND METHODOLOGY OF APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

Sub-Saharan Africa is often at the margins of science and technology issues. Everything is presented as if Africa in the South of the Sahara has been outside of the progress of science and technology over the centuries and not accounting for the legacy of techniques and sciences. And yet the various available sources show that not only did Africa in the south of the Sahara have a history of science and technology, but they have been omnipresent throughout the centuries and have played a decisive role in the development and structuring of traditional societies. Despite the denial of science and technology to these societies by some Europeans since the first contacts with the coasts from the fifteenth century, which is expressed through their writings, written, archaeological and oral sources provide evidence of their existences and of their diversities. Concepts, epistemological aspects and approaches are at the root of this denial. However, their approaches require a methodology adapted to the cultural, social and political contexts of societies whose orality is the basis for the transmission of knowledge.

Keywords: Technology, Science, Traditional, History, Sub-Saharan.