Title: Olaudah Equiano and the Igbo world: history, society and Atlantic diaspora connections
Editor: Korieh, Chima J.
Year: 2009
Pages: 407
Language: English
City: Trenton, NJ
Publisher: Africa World Press
ISBN: 1592216641; 9781592216642; 159221665X; 9781592216659
Geographic terms: Nigeria, America, Igbo, ethnic identity
Subjects: diasporas, slave trade, anticolonialism
About person: Olaudah Equiano (ca. 1745-ca. 1797)
Abstract: This collective volume focuses on the Igbo-Atlantic connection with two goals: to explore the extent to which the Igbo encounter with Europeans via the Atlantic slave trade provides historical data for reconstructing early Igbo history and social dynamics, and to explore the impacts of this earlier encounter and the subsequent colonization of Igboland (southeastern Nigeria) on both sides of the Atlantic. The contributions in the first section reexamine the picture of Igbo life painted by Olaudah Equiano in his 'The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African' (1789) (chapters by Maureen N. Eke, Catherine Obianuju Acholonu, Dorothy Chinwe Ukaegbu, Ogbo Ugwuanyi, Elizabeth Odachi Onogwu). The second section examines the Igbo response to their encounters with Europe and in particular their response to two hegemonic institutions - slavery and colonialism - in the context of their traditional culture (Raphael Chijioke Njoku, Ogbu U. Kalu, J. Akuma-Kalu Njoku, Felix K. Ekechi, Adiele Afigob, John N. Oriji). The contributions in the third section look at aspects of the Igbo impact on the Atlantic diaspora, including the legacies left by Igbo women in the New World, approaching the specific Igbo response to slavery from the perspective of their African context (Chima J. Korieh, Douglas B. Chambers, Hannah E. Eby Chukwu, Daniel Kloza, Ron Milland). [ASC Leiden abstract]