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Reincarnation: *The Igbo Concept of Birth and Death*

By Chizobem Chinedu Opiah

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REINCARNATION

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The Concept of Life after Death in the Igbo Society In Igbo belief, reincarnation is the idea that the soul is reborn into a new body after death, continuing its journey through life. Igbo people believe that after death, the soul does not cease to exist but is reincarnated into a new family member, often...

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The Concept of Life after Death in the Igbo Society

In Igbo belief, reincarnation is the idea that the soul is reborn into a new body after death, continuing its journey through life.

Igbo people believe that after death, the soul does not cease to exist but is reincarnated into a new family member, often within the same lineage or community.

Deceased ancestors are revered and believed to influence the lives of their descendants. Reincarnation is seen as a way for ancestors to return and continue their involvement in the family's affairs.

In many cases, families look for signs or omens to identify reincarnated souls, which may include physical resemblances or behavioral traits. Naming ceremonies and other rituals are performed to honor and integrate these souls into the family.

Reincarnation reinforces family continuity and the importance of

moral behavior, as actions in one life are thought to affect future rebirths. It emphasizes the connection between the living and the spiritual realm.

While traditional beliefs in reincarnation remain strong, they have been influenced by Christianity and modernization, leading to a blending or reinterpretation of these beliefs in contemporary contexts.

Reincarnation is a central aspect of Igbo cosmology, reflecting their views on life, death, and the enduring connection between ancestors and their descendants.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chizobem Chinedu Opiah

Chikwere is a passionate history blogger dedicated towards sharing fascinating stories and untold tales of Igbo history and culture. I am also a Graphic Designer and a Tech enthusiasts. I developed a deep love for Igbo culture and tradition since my teenage age. So far I've learnt alot about Igbo History and Culture and I'll share the knowledge acquired so far in this space of Igbo History and Culture. Daalu.



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