

AFRIKANIA'S ATTEMPTS TO MAKE ATR LOOK MORE APPEALING

African Traditional Religion has not historically been based on sacred texts. Realizing that this was a disadvantage when compared to Christianity, Afrikania has begun to claim ancient Egyptian texts as their sacred scriptures.

Yet experts in ancient eastern religions say that "Egyptian religion...had no sacred books containing a revelation. The Pyramid texts engraved in the tomb chambers of the last king of the fifth dynasty and of all the sixth dynasty kings, the sarcophagus texts, drawn with a calamus on the funerary urns of the Middle Empire, the Book of the Dead, copied on papyrus rolls placed near the mummies under the New Empire, cannot be regarded in this light. They were collections of magic incantations for the use of the dead in the next world. The fact that all their formulas were completely replaced by others in the course of time proves that the Egyptians reckoned none of them essential to his religion.

From "Religions of the Ancient East" Vol. 141, Etienne Drioton, Georges Contenau & Jacques Ducheme-Gullemin, Hawthorne Books, NY, 1959.

See also: Alternative to the Egyptian Book of the Dead