

# Yoruba Philosophy and the Seeds of Enlightenment

*Advancing Yoruba Philosophy*

Yemi D. Prince

VERNON SERIES IN PHILOSOPHY

## Summary

For upwards of 25 years, Yemi D. Prince (also known as Yemi D. Ogunyemi) has systematically devoted himself to the education, research and reason of Creative Writing and from Creative Writing to Creative Thinking and from Creative Thinking to Yoruba narrative, cultural, folk philosophy. On realizing that Creative Thinking has become his area of focus and interest, he succeeds in cultivating big ideas, combining them with his life-long experiences in the Humanities, transforming them into new ways of writing, thinking or reasoning. (Some of his big ideas have led to the publication of booklets such as *Yoruba Idealism*, *We Should All Be Philosophers*, *The Artist-Philosophers in Yoruba land*, *Codes of Morality and Pursuit of Wisdom*.) Thus his big ideas have helped him separate Yoruba folk philosophy from Yoruba autochthonous religion. With his love for big ideas, born out of Creative Thinking and Critical Thinking, he has been able to put a new face on Yoruba Philosophy.

## About the author

Yemi D. Prince (also known as Yemi D. Ogunyemi) is a luminous literary philosopher, often fascinated by books, letters and the power of words. With *Creative Writing*, *Creative Thinking* and *Critical Thinking*, he delightfully and systematically blends Yoruba philosophy with folktales—literature, and religion. Former research Fellow, Harvard University, former Director, Institute of Creative Writing, Yemi has authored over 40 titles of literary works—fiction, nonfiction, plays, poetry and children's stories. His recent publications include *Studying Creative Writing in Nigeria*, *The Birth of a Child in a Fishing Boat*, his memoir, and *The Oral Traditions in Yorubaland*.

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