

Tracing roots

the cultural relations between Africa and
Brazil

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Subject:

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- Brazil was colonized by Portugal in the sixteenth century and throughout the colonial period (XVI-XIX) portuguese settlers used the labor-slave on farms, livestock and vegetable and mineral exploration. These men and women slaves came from different regions of Africa, especially from Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania, Congo, Senegal, Nigeria, Sudan, Benin, Guine and Ghana.

Throughout the period of slavery there were numerous rebellions led by people upset with the captive and willing to give their lives for the pursuit of freedom. These centuries of struggle and resistance resulted in the abolition of slavery in Brazilian territory, officially promulgated with the Law of May 13, 1888. Some freed slaves returned to their lands in Africa, but most turned Brazil into their new land. The presence of these people helped shape the Brazilian culture and its influence is felt in the Brazilian language, religion, music, dance, feasts, material culture and food.

In the past Africa and Brazil were linked by historical and economic reasons, but in the present this link is cultural.

Along the times the perseverance of many men and women made the Africa take roots in the heart of Brazil.

Objects:

- Two ceramic bowls: the Nigerian great ceramic symbolizing the African continent and the small ceramic (neo-brasileira) symbolizing African descendents in Brazil.

Two ceramic bowls : neobrasileira (Brasil) and Nigeria (Igbo)



Layout of the exhibition:

- The vessels in the middle of the room with small text explaining their origin, date, functionality, production technique, etc..

On the front wall of the room we'll put a map of Brazil and the African continent, showing the places where enslaved people were brought and the places in Brazil where they were send to work.
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On the lateral walls of the room we'll put pictures of people, parties, objects (one side of the room as Brazil and the other the different parts of Africa that have historical connections with Brazil, showing the same types of elements) that demonstrate this cultural relationship.

Baianas day (baianas-Brazil)

Wedding ceremony (yoruba-Nigeria)



bahianas (Bahia-Brazil)



Igbo ceremony (Nigeria)



Food market (Bahia-Brazil)



Wedding ceremony (yoruba)



Candomblé (Brazil)



Dance from south Nigeria



Activities

- Performances : traditional dances (Africa and Brazil performers), traditional music (Africa and Brazil)
- Workshops: tradicional customs (children and teenagers); ceramic manufacture; traditional food
- Lectures: Slavery in the mankind history; contemporary discussion about human rights