

AFRICA OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE: TRANSLATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE IN ITALY SINCE 1960

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The work mainly concerns Italian publications and translations of African literary works. The period chosen is emblematic. In 1960 the awarding of independence to many African countries undoubtedly contributed to making students of our country more aware of the new forms of expression. These, however, had already taken root in the movement of "Negritude" to which the name of Aime Cesaire is associated. Moreover, recently the awarding of the Nobel Prize to an African writer - in 1986 to Wole Soyinka: - has shown the public how original African literature is: its particular aspects derive from the merging between a culture full of rhythm and symbolic imagery and the language of the ex-European colonizers.

An accurate and detailed bibliography of works-critical and historical works, essays, fiction, drama, poetry-has been compiled. These all concern francophone Africa and the Black diaspora of the French language which have been translated and published in Italy since 1960.

A first glance reveals a fairly modest editorial commitment: essays are almost non-existent and it is only in the last few years that novels have been given more space. But it must be pointed out that we haven't yet reached our target. The above consideration stems from our on-going research.