

## THE HAIR CULTURE WITHIN THE YORUBA TRIBE IN NIGERIA

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## Introduction

In this powerpoint you will be able to learn about the different dynamics surrounding the importance hair had on Nigerian history and African civilization.

It will expand on why black African hair was strong and healthy, reveal the product they created and used, while also showing and explaining how and why women would lose their hair due to certain hair styles.

## Where Is Nigeria Located?

- Nigeria is located in West Africa where it is along the coast of Benin and the Gulf of Guinea.
- The colors green represent the natural wealth of the country and white represents Peace.

The Nigerian Flag: Colors green and white



#### Nigeria's Landscape

Source: (Botha, 2019)

# Who were the Nigerian Women ?

The Nigerian women were apart of a traditional ethnic and cultural group called the "Yoruba Tribe".

They are people or women who bring about economic activity, confidence & authority of their women (McIntosh, 2009).

## Name Of Yoruba Hairstyles



Korobo

#### Thread/ Irun Kiko

Eko Bridge

Source: (Oselumese, 2021)

#### Name Of The Traditional Yoruba Hairstyles Today

- In today's culture Yoruba brides wear their hair in beautiful fabric coverings which is "Tie a gele".
- People cannot see what a bride is wearing underneath.
- Source: (Willie, 2021)



## What Hair Told About Someone's Status

- Hair in this culture was a way to identify someone.
- You could tell of someone's tribe and where they came from.
- You could tell of their social status, whether they were a slave (peasant), or from the royal side.
- Religion, Wealth, class, and fertility were told through how hair was worn

#### **Religion And Hair**

• Religion is the main reason why hairstyles had to be

worn in a certain way

- Source of communication between spirits and God
- It showed individuality between the individual & who

they worship.

#### A picture from the "Soul Hairitage Series"

- It shows various complexed hairstyles consisting of updo's, braid downs, cornrows, braiding
  - styles that are creative in forming a shape above the head (Tolu, 2020).
- Today we see these same hairstyles being repeated on young girls and older Women.



## Hair Loss with Hairstyles

- many achievable hairstyles came with tightness on the edges that
  - created the hair to become weak and brittle.
- Alopecia: is a condition resulting from excessive hair loss due to stress and tension.
- There was an investigation that sampled women in the use of chemicals in their hair that caused hair loss (Nnoruka, 2005)



This is all the hair loss due to the tight braiding styles.

Souce: (Gather, 2018),

## Hair Products Used

#### Yoruba people used

- 1. Ori which means Shea butter
- 2. Epo Ekuro which means Palm Kernel Oil
- 3. Epo Agbon which is Coconut oil

All of these products were used to bring moisture to their hair since they are in the sun a lot and the sun can make their hair dry and weak.



Souce: (Hilda, 2018)

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