



## Things Fall Apart (Norton Critical Editions)

By Chinua Achebe

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**Things Fall Apart (Norton Critical Editions) By Chinua Achebe**

**Chinua Achebe's tragic novel of pre-colonial Igbo society was a major literary and cultural event when it was published in 1958.**

Written during a period of nationalist assertion and an emerging modern culture in Africa, *Things Fall Apart*'s influence quickly spread from Nigeria throughout Africa and beyond. In its fifty years, this unforgettable novel has been translated into fifty languages and has been read by millions.

A Chronology of Achebe's life and work and a Selected Bibliography are also included.

2 maps

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## Things Fall Apart (Norton Critical Editions) By Chinua Achebe Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

One of the most widely read novels from Nigeria's most famous novelist. **Things Fall Apart** is a gripping study of the problem of European colonialism in Africa. The story relates the cultural collision that occurs when Christian English missionaries arrive among the Ibos of Nigeria, bringing along their European ways of life and religion. In the novel, the Nigerian Okonkwo recognizes the cultural imperialism of the white men and tries to show his own people how their own society will fall apart if they exchange their own cultural core for that of the English.

#### From Library Journal

Peter Francis James offers a superb narration of Nigerian novelist Achebe's deceptively simple 1959 masterpiece. In direct, almost fable-like prose, it depicts the rise and fall of Okonkwo, a Nigerian whose sense of manliness is more akin to that of his warrior ancestors than to that of his fellow clansmen who have converted to Christianity and are appeasing the British administrators who infiltrate their village. The tough, proud, hardworking Okonkwo is at once a quintessential old-order Nigerian and a universal character in whom sons of all races have identified the figure of their father. Achebe creates a many-sided picture of village life and a sympathetic hero. A good recording of this novel has been long overdue, and the unhurried grace and quiet dignity of James's narration make it essential for every collection. Peter Josyph, New York Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

#### Review

""Peter Francis James offers a superb narration of Nigerian novelist Achebe's deceptively simple 1959 masterpiece ... A good recording of this novel has been long overdue, and the unhurried grace and quiet dignity of James' narration make it essential for every collection."

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