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Religions Santeria

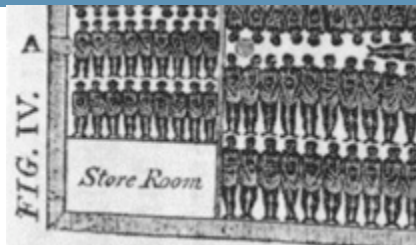


Santeria (Way of the Saints) is an Afro-Caribbean religion based on Yoruba beliefs and traditions, with some Roman Catholic elements added. The religion is also known as *La Regla Lucumi* and *the Rule of Osha*.

Santeria is a syncretic religion that grew out of the slave trade in Cuba.

Photo shows a Santeria shrine in Havana. © Zalewski Michal

Features



- **Santeria and slavery**

Santeria was created in Cuba by mingling the Yoruba traditions of enslaved Africans from Nigeria and Benin with the Roman Catholic faith of the Spanish plantation owners.



- **Rituals and customs**

Santeria rituals allow human beings to stay in contact with the Orishas. They include dancing, drumming, speaking and eating with the spirits.