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THE POSITION OF THE MOON, SUN, STARS, LIGHTNING AND SPACE RELATED SCIENCES IN
AFRICA.

Abstract

The Moon, the Stars and the Sun in some extent even the Clouds and Lightning in the Sky are regarded as sacred objects or things or even gods by some African traditional religions which are at present in control of approximately 25% of the entire African population of approximately 900 million as at 2009. In this respect the followers of these traditional religions are there for restricted from studying the Moon, Sun, Lightning, thunders or any other object or being above the atmosphere. However the religion of Islam and Christianity which are collectively in control of 70% of the African population have not restricted their followers from studying the Moon, Sun, thunders, Stars or even Astronomy, but however due to the presence of the elements of astrology in the space sciences generally, which is a branch of studies many Africans use locally through studying the movements of Stars and signs of thunders in the prediction of future events or in fortune telling businesses made the Space Sciences generally to be less attractive to both the Muslims and the Christians in Africa, hence this situation is making many young promising potential future space based scientist such as astronomers, aerospace engineers, climatologist, metrologies or the astrologists in their early education (primary or secondary/high schools) end up studying non space related science courses in their University levels. Hence this situation has lead to the underdevelopment of the space sciences generally in Africa and it has become an obstacle to many African scientists that could contribute in the development of space based sciences including Lightning related aspects.