## MENDING THE BROKEN PIECES

Indigenous Religion and Sustainable Rural Development in Northern Ghana

Rose Mary Amenga-Etego



**AFRICA WORLD PRESS** 

TRENTON | LONDON | CAPE TOWN | NAIROBI | ADDIS ABABA | ASMARA | IBADAN | NEW DELHI

## **Table of Contents**

reface	ix
Acknowledgements	xiii
Abbreviations	xv
INTRODUCTION	
Chapter One: The Lie of the Land	3
Emerging Question	14
Terminology	25
Religion and Sustainable Development	26
Seeking Partnership?	33
PART ONE	
Chapter Two: Nankani identity and Religious Construction	41
Locating the Nankani of Northern Ghana	46
Constructing a Religious Identity	55
The Nankani	64
Nankani Worldview	73
Religio-Cultural Dynamism (Tradition and Change)	83
Chapter Three: Debating Sustainable Rural Development	93
Contextualizing Sustainable Development	97
Traditional Concepts of Development	99
Modern Development: A Historical Perspective	103
Navrongo-Bolgatanga Catholic Diocesan Development	
Office (NABOCADO)	118
NABOCADO: Engaging Development among the Nankani	121
Witchcraft and Rural Development	129

## MENDING THE BROKEN PIECES

Chapter Four: The Dynamics of Gender in an African Society	151
Contextualizing Gender	155
Traditional Concepts of Gender	161
Modern Concepts of Gender	176
Problems and Challenges	180
PART TWO	
Chapter Five: Theory and Method in Indigenous African	
Research: Responses from the Field	197
The Methodological Quest	201
Field-Based Methodologies	216
Chapter Six: The Politics of Involvement	239
Theory or Method? A Return to the Field	241
Native Researcher	242
Engaging the Insider/Outsider Debate	244
Contesting Identities	255
The Disengaged Scholar?	259
The Native Researcher and Issues of Sensitivity	261
CONCLUSION	
Chapter Seven: Mending the Broken Pieces	269
Problems and Challenges	272
Gender, Underdevelopment and the Feminization of Poverty	279
Development in Partnership	282
'Mending the Broken Pieces'	286
Bibliography	291
Index	325