

## **The African Languages and the Cuban Spanish**

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*The appropriate assessment of the transcendence of the close contacts between Africa and America under new perspectives has not still been made. During several centuries, and with different approaches and objectives, the study of the legacy - so much human as sociocultural - of Africa in the formation of the American peoples has taken different shades and many times they have been forgotten and hidden. The linguistic "whitening" has also been a constant in the attempts to invent and to implant a model in the American culture.*

*Basic linguistic principles help to determine the etymologies of songs, prayers and other oral texts or writings that come from African languages in America, this work is the first filter to establish the initial hypotheses of work in this complex scientific process. However, it is necessary to remark that it is indispensable a deep etymological argument that doesn't only include the texts produced by classic scholars of the Cuban culture and African dictionaries, but, also, a cooperation with African linguists that offer their fundamental analysis approaches. Without this essential step the study would be always partially valid.*

*In spite of all the difficulties in this complicated road to study the African linguistic legacy in Cuba it is undeniable that in the last 30 years theoretical and methodological steps have been taken that have allowed to leave behind folklorist and superficial stages in the panorama of the Cuban linguistic anthropology. We hope this report will contribute positively to call the attention to the need of stimulating interdisciplinary investigations that are able to face these problems, unanswered questions that have several centuries of validity and are still a challenge to experts in different parts of the world.*