



Award created by Enoch Frimpong
(Tooting Community Pathfinder Club) 2018



26th - 29th July 2018

ADINKRA AWARD



Name of Adventurer:

Name of Club:

Award Instructor Signature of Completion:

Date:

Introduction to the Adinkra Award

Welcome to the workbook for this exciting new Adventurer Award for the BUC Adventurer Camporee 2018.

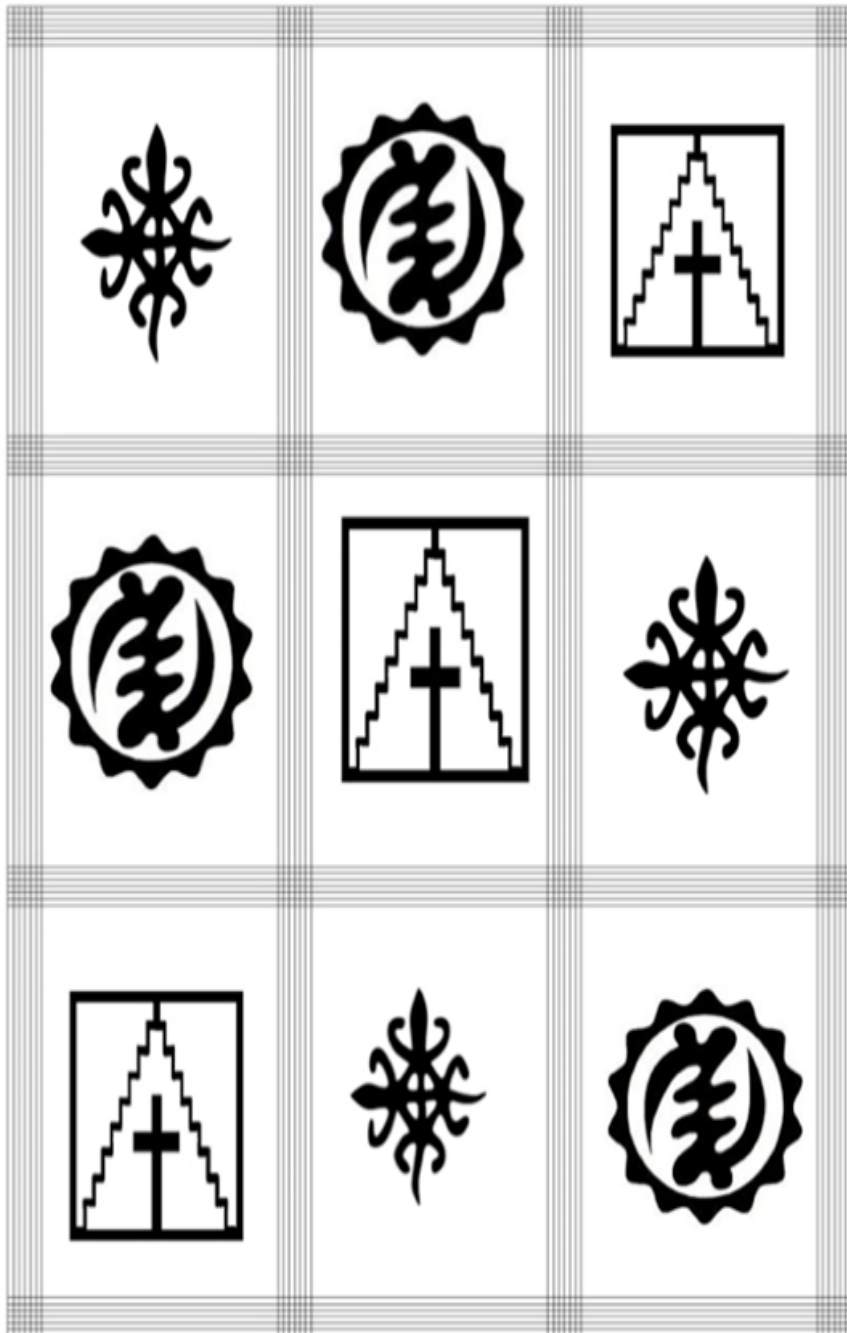
On the next page you will find the requirements and some creative helps at the end for you to complete the Award. Of course you may complete it back in your clubs, but this booklet gives you the chance to keep all your work together in one piece.

To complete this Award, the following must be completed satisfactorily:

- v Practical Requirements.
- v Award Workbook.
- v Honour Assessment Sheet signed by the instructor/examiner.

Additional Reference Material






http://www.stlawu.edu/gallery/education/f/09textiles/adinkra_symbols.pdf <http://www.emancipationpark.org.jm/about-us/adinkra-symbols.php> http://www.adinkra.org/htmls/adinkra_index.htm







Requirements

1. Using the Akan (Asante) household name chart, write your name.
2. Describe the origin of Adinkra symbol.
3. Mention at least two instances in the Bible where symbols were used.
4. Name the three different types of Adinkra.
5. Draw your favourite Adinkra symbol and write why you like it.
6. Stamp at least (3) different types of Adinkra Symbols of your choice (in your preferred pattern) in the Adinkra cloth design grid.






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<p>AKOKO NAN—“The leg of a hen”</p> <p>Symbol of nurturing and discipline The full name of this symbol translates to “The hen treads on her chicks, but she does not kill them.” This represents the ideal nature of parents, being both protective and corrective. An exhortation to nurture children, but a warning not to pamper them.</p>	
<p>AKOFENA—“Sword of war ”</p> <p>Symbol of courage, valor, and heroism The crossed swords were a popular motif in the heraldic shields of many former Akan states. In addition to recognizing courage and valor, the swords can represent legitimate state authority.</p>	
<p>Change or transform your character</p> <p>Symbol of life transformation. This symbol combines two separate adinkra symbols, the “Morning Star” which can mean a new start to the day, placed inside the wheel, representing rotation or independent movement.</p>	
<p>NYAME DUA—“tree of god” – altar</p> <p>Symbol of God’s presence and protection The Nyame Dua is a sacred spot where rituals are performed. Erected in front of the house or compound, it is crafted from a tree that has been cut where three or more branches come together. This stake holds an earthenware vessel filled with water and herbs or other symbolic materials for purification and blessing rituals.</p>	
<p>DUAFE—“wooden comb”</p> <p>Symbol of beauty and cleanliness; symbols of desirable feminine qualities The meaning of this symbol is characterized slightly differently in “The Adinkra Dictionary” and “The Values of Adinkra Symbols”; the former emphasizes more abstract qualities of feminine goodness, love and care, while the latter has a more literal interpretation, looking one’s best and good hygiene. In any case, the duafe was a prized possession of the Akan woman, used to comb and plait her hair.</p>	

<p>NYANSAPO - "Wisdom knot"</p> <p>Symbol of wisdom, ingenuity, intelligence and patience. An especially revered symbol of the Akan, this symbol conveys the idea that "a wise person has the capacity to choose the best means to attain a goal. Being wise implies broad knowledge, learning and experience, and the ability to apply such faculties to practical ends."</p>	
<p>NEA ONNIM NO SUA A, OHU</p> <p>"He who does not know can know from learning" symbol of knowledge, life-long education and continued quest for knowledge</p>	
<p>AKOBEN</p> <p>"War horn" symbol of vigilance and wariness Akoben is a horn used to sound a battle cry.</p>	
<p>FUNTUNFUNEFU-DENKYEMFUNEFU</p> <p>"Siamese crocodiles"</p> <p>Symbol of democracy and unity The Siamese crocodiles share one stomach, yet they fight over food. This popular symbol is a reminder that infighting and tribalism is harmful to all who engage in it</p>	
<p>NKYINKYIM</p> <p>"twisting" Symbol of initiative, dynamism and versatility</p>	

5. Draw your favourite Adinkra symbol and write why you like it.

6. Stamp at least (3) different types of Adinkra Symbols of your choice (in your preferred pattern) in the Adinkra cloth design grid.

<p>AKOMA</p> <p>“the heart”</p> <p>Symbol of patience and tolerance The Akans believe that when a person is said to “have a heart in his stomach,” that person is very tolerant.</p>	
<p>God is in the heavens</p> <p>Symbol of hope A reminder that God’s dwelling place is in the heaven, where he can listen to all prayers.</p>	
<p>God is King</p> <p>Symbol of majesty and supremacy of God</p>	
<p>By God’s grace</p> <p>Symbol of faith and trust in God. This stalk is depicted as the staff of life in many cultures. It symbolizes to the Akan that food is a basis of life and that they could not survive if not for the food that God has placed here on Earth for their nourishment.</p>	
<p>“God never dies, therefore I cannot die”</p> <p>Symbol of God’s omnipresence and the perpetual existence of man’s spirit This signifies the immortality of man’s soul, believed to be a part of God. Because the soul rests with God after death, it cannot die.</p>	

<p>ADINKRAHENE</p> <p>“Chief of the adinkra symbols” symbol of greatness, charisma and leadership This symbol is said to have played an inspiring role in the designing of other symbols. it signifies the importance of playing a leadership role.</p>	
<p>AYA - “Fern”</p> <p>Symbol of endurance and resourcefulness The fern is a hardy plant that can grow in difficult places. “An individual who wears this symbol suggests that he has endured many adversities and outlasted much difficulty.”</p>	
<p>Return and get it</p> <p>Symbol of importance of learning from the past. As humans we are vulnerable to make mistakes, but an ability to reflect on the mistake to address what went wrong defines the person's character of endurance.</p>	
<p>GYE NYAME - “except for God”</p> <p>Symbol of the supremacy of God This unique and beautiful symbol is ubiquitous in Ghana. It is by far the most popular for use in decoration, a reflection on the deeply religious character of the Ghanaian People</p>	
<p>When you climb a good tree</p> <p>Symbol of support, cooperation and encouragement From the expression “Woforo dua pa a, na yepia wo” meaning “When you climb a good tree, you are given a push”. More metaphorically, it means that when you work for a good cause, you will get support.</p>	

He was finally killed and his territory annexed to the kingdom of Asante. The tradition had it that Nana Adinkra wore patterned cloth, which was interpreted as a way of expressing his sorrow on being taken to Kumasi the capital of Asante.

The Asante people around the 19th century then took to painting of traditional symbols of the Gyamans onto cloth, a tradition that was well practiced by the latter. Adinkra also means 'goodbye' or 'farewell' in Twi the language of the Akan ethnic group of which Asante is a part. It has therefore been the tradition of the Akan especially the Asante to wear cloths decorated with Adinkra symbols on important occasions especially at funerals of family relations and friends. This is to signify their sorrow and to bid farewell to the deceased.

Requirement 3. What are the biblical significance of symbols

Throughout the bible, God used symbols and signs to communicate to man. From the leading of the Israelites from Egypt to the promise land, Daniel's prophecy and the vision of John in Revelation, signs and symbols played an important role in how God communicate with his children. Bible verses that reflect the use of symbols and signs are: Genesis 9:13, Isaiah 57:8 and Hebrew 9:25

Requirement 4. What are the three main types of Adinkra

The 3 most important funerary Adinkra are the dark - brown (kuntunkuni) the brick - red (kobene) and the black (brisi). There are however, other forms of which cannot be properly called mourning cloth. Their bright and light backgrounds classify them as Kwasiada Adinkra (Sunday Adinkra) which cannot be suitable for funerary contents but appropriate for most festive occasions or even daily wear.

Requirement 5. Draw your favourite Adinkra symbol and write why you like it

Requirement 6: Know at least 3 Adinkra symbols from the selected 20

Adinkra Award Helps

Requirement 1. Akan Household name chat

In the Akan tradition, a child is given a household name be virtue of the day they were born. The chat below gives the name for a boy or girl by the day they are born. There are different Akan languages; this award focuses on the Asante Akan, which is the dominant group. Not everyone will know the day they were born, you can use Google calendar.

DAY	MALE	Female
Sunday	Kwasi	Akosua
Monday	Kwadwo	Adwoa
Tuesday	Kwabena	Abena
Wednesday	Kwaku	Akua
Thursday	Yaw	Yaa
Friday	Kofi	Afia
Saturday	Kwame	Ama

Requirement 2. Describe the origin of Adinkra Symbols

The Adinkra symbols are believed to have their origin from Gyaman, a former kingdom in today's Côte D'Ivoire otherwise known as Ivory Coast. According to an Asante (Ghana) legend Adinkra was the name of a king of the Gyaman (Nana kofi Adinkra). Adinkra was defeated and captured in a battle by the Asantes for having copied the "Golden Stool", which represents for them absolute power and tribal cohesion.

