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Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Bata Kindai Amgoza Ibn LoBagola papers

1928-1933

Sc MG 142

Home to Harlem Project funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Summary

Creator: LoBagola, Bata Kindai Amgoza Ibn, 1877-1947

Title: Bata Kindai Amgoza Ibn LoBagola papers

Date: 1928-1933

Size: 0.02 linear feet (2 folders)

Source: Purchase, University Place Book Shop, 197802

Revision History: Finding aid updated by Allison Hughes.

Abstract: Bata Kindai Amgoza Ibn LoBagola, an African American, was born Joseph Howard Lee in 1887 in Baltimore, Maryland. As early as 1907 he was using the name "LoBagola," claiming that he was from the French Sudan, and was on the lecture circuit speaking about African customs and his claims that he was a Black Jew. In 1930 he published *LoBagola : An African Savage's Own Story*, which was translated and sold in a number of European countries, and *The Folk Tales of a Savage*. LoBagola died in 1947 while in Attica Prison, having been arrested and imprisoned several times for petty theft and sexual crimes. Correspondence between LoBagola and his agent, James B. Pond, contracts, clippings, advertisements, and a typescript of a lecture entitled "My Religion," about his experience as a Jew.

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Language of the Material: English

Creator History

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in 1947 while in Attica Prison, having been arrested and imprisoned several times for petty theft and sexual crimes.

Scope and Content Note

Includes correspondence between LoBagola and his agent, James B. Pond, contracts, clippings, advertisements, and a typescript of a lecture entitled "My Religion," about his experience as a Jew.

Key Terms

Geographic Names

Africa -- Civilization -- Study and teaching

Africa -- Social life and customs -- Study and teaching

Subjects

African American entertainers

African American Jews -- Biography

Black author

Black Hebrews -- Biography

Blacks -- Religion

Blacks -- United States -- Public opinion

Curiosities and wonders -- Africa

Jews -- Africa -- Biography

Jews -- Conversion to Christianity

Names

LoBagola, Bata Kindai Amgoza Ibn, 1877-1947

Pond, James B. (James Burton), 1889-1961