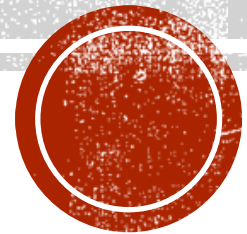


THINGS FALL APART

CHINUA ACHEBE

A PRESENTATION BY DR. SOMA RAY CHAUDHURY

BA HONOURS SEMESTER VI



INTRODUCTION TO CHINUA ACHEBE:

- The man who invented African literature
- Other novels before *Things Fall Apart*
- The story is set in 1860-1890
- Written and published in 1952-1959
- Achebe was part of a converted family
- The novel captures his own positioning at the crossroads of culture



READING THINGS FALL APART

- The communal world
- The embattled zones of conquest
- The decline of tradition



STRUCTURE AND NARRATIVE:

- Use of embedded narrative forms like anecdotes, animal fables, folktales, ballads
- Replicates the oral story telling form
- Indeterminacy of the narrator's identity
- Translation of Igbo into English



OKONKWO: A TRAGIC HERO

- A renowned wrestler and warrior
- Physically virile
- Contrast with his father Unoka and son Nwoye
- Vehemently opposes the arrival of Christianity
- His pride and rashness leads to his downfall - commits suicide

