









Adinkra Symbols with Meanings

Adinkra literally translates as farewell or goodbye in a large loose linguistic grouping of the Fante, the Akan, the Ashanti and the Akuapem from Ghana.

However, they are widely used across Africa and in the diaspora. They are visual representations of proverbs with significant historical and philosophical meaning

Adinkra cloth was originally worn by royalty. It is still commonly found at ceremonies and funerals, however it is also now used to bring meaning to furniture, sculpture, earthenware pots and casual wear.

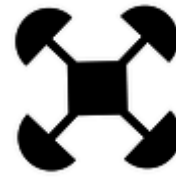
 <p><u>Odo Nyera Fie Kwan</u></p> <p>Love does not miss its way home Those led by love will never lose their way.</p>	 <p><u>Nsoromma</u></p> <p>Child of the heavens (star)</p>
 <p><u>Akoma</u></p> <p>Heart- A symbol of patience and tolerance</p>	 <p><u>Tamfo Bebre</u></p> <p>The enemy will suffer - A symbol connoting the awareness of ill-will, jealousy and envy</p>
 <p><u>Denkyem</u></p> <p>Crocodile - A symbol of adaptability, cleverness</p>	 <p><u>Duafe</u></p> <p>Wooden comb -A symbol of beauty, hygiene</p>
 <p><u>Nyame Nwu na Mawu</u></p> <p>symbol of the immortality of man (man's soul)</p>	 <p><u>Adwo</u></p> <p>Calmness Peace, tranquility, and quiet</p>



Dwannini Mmen

Ram's horns

A symbol of strength and humility



Akoma Ntoaso

Extension of the heart

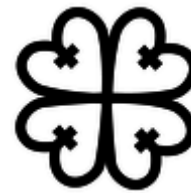
Charter, agreement



Abe Dua

Palm tree

A symbol of wealth, resourcefulness, and self-sufficiency



Nyame Dua

God's tree (sacred stump)

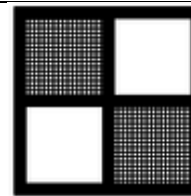
A symbol of God's presence and protection



Akoben

War horn

A symbol of vigilance and wariness



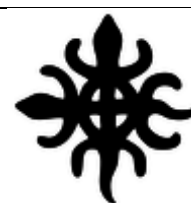
Kuronti ne Akwamu

A symbol of democracy, sharing ideas, taking council



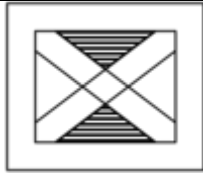
Akoko Nan

Leg of a hen. A symbol of nurturing coupled with discipline



Funtumfunafu Denkyemfunafu

Conjoined crocodiles. A symbol of unity in diversity given a common destiny; sharing



Mframadan

Well-ventilated house. A symbol of resilience and readiness to face the vicissitudes of life



Osram ne Nsoromma

Moon and star. A symbol of faithfulness, fidelity



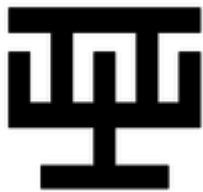
Woforo Dua Pa A

When you climb a good tree.
A symbol of support for good causes



Gye Nyame

Except God.
A symbol expressing the omnipotence of God



Hwehwemudua

Measuring rod (investigation rod).
A symbol of high quality and excellence



Mpatapo

Pacification knot.
A symbol of pacification, forgiveness, and reconciliation



Okuafo Pa

Good farmer
A symbol of diligence, hardwork, entrepreneurship



Nkonsonkonson

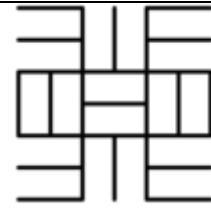
Chain
A symbol of unity, community



Menso Wo Kenten

I am not carrying your basket

A symbol of industry, self-reliance, and economic self-determination



Nea Onnim

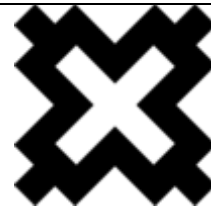
He who does not know

A symbol of knowledge and learning



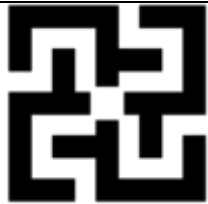
Sepow

Executioner's knife- A symbol of justice



Aban

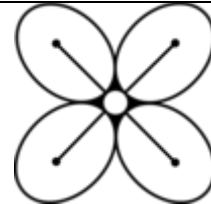
Fortress
A symbol of strength and authority



UAC Nkanea

UAC lights

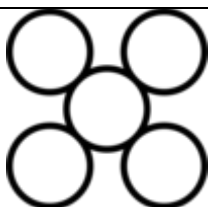
A symbol of technological advancement



Bese Saka

Bunch of cola nuts

A symbol of affluence, power, and abundance



Mpuannum

Five tufts (of hair)

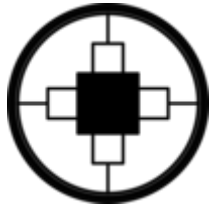
A symbol of loyalty and priestly office



Epa

Handcuffs

A symbol of slavery, law and order



Dame-Dame

Chequered
A symbol of intelligence, ingenuity, and strategy



Mako

Pepper
A symbol of inequality and uneven development



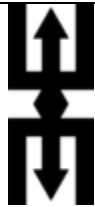
Mmere Dane

Time changes (times change)
A symbol of the temporariness of good times



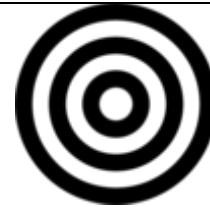
Nkyinkyim

Twisting
A symbol depicting the twists and turns in the journey of life



Nteasee

Understanding. A symbol for understanding and cooperation



Adinkrahene

King of Adinkra symbols. A symbol of leadership and charisma



Owuo Atwedee

Ladder of death

A symbol of the certainty and universality of death



Sankofa

It is not a taboo to go back.
Look to the past for the lessons to guide your future
Mistakes are never too big to be undone