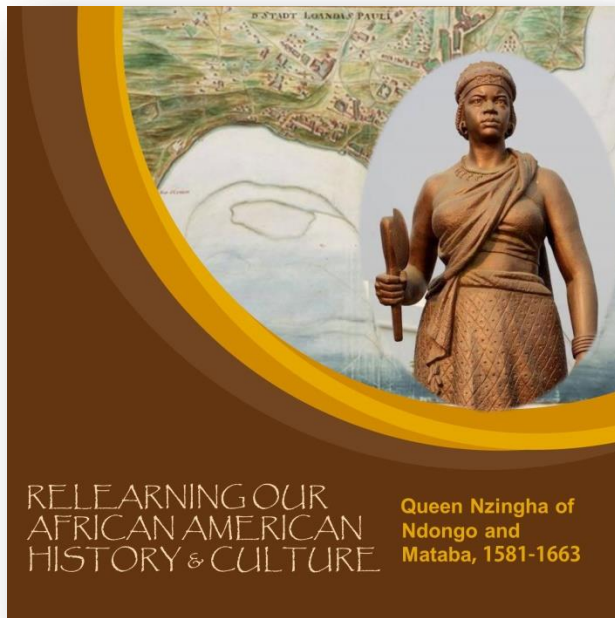




AFRICAN AMERICAN NONPROFIT LEADERS
Champions for Nonprofit Excellence and Social Change.

Queen Nzingha of Ndongo and Mataba.



- ✚ [Queen Nzingha](#), also known as Ana de Sousa Nzinga Mbande, was a queen of the Ndongo and Matamba Kingdoms (occupying what is now [Angola](#) in the southern part of Africa).
- ✚ During her negotiation of a peace treaty in 1622, the Portuguese told her to sit on the floor. [She refused and her maids offered their backs as a stool](#) so she could negotiate as an equal with the Portuguese representatives.
- ✚ She was strategic in building intra-African alliances, and was never captured. The military superiority of Njinga's army and her ability to build alliances made [her the most feared figure in the Angolan wars](#) in the 17th century.
- ✚ Most images of her are portrayed in a Eurocentric context, but a more authentic image, a willful woman carrying an axe, is captured in the official sculpture for independence ([Kinaxixi Square, Luanda, Angola](#)).

“

...a fearless warrior queen, skilled negotiator, and outstanding military general who fought against the Portuguese and their expanding slave trade in Central Africa.

- PBS.org



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By the time of her death in 1663, Matamba is said to have developed into a formidable commercial state that was able to deal with the Portuguese on an equal footing.

- Ancient Origins.net

