My paper presents how memories of African communities in the southern Indian state of Kerala are generated and/or preserved through shrines dedicated to the spirit of deceased Africans. Shrines for African spirits locally known as Kappiri (derived from the Arabic term for a “non-Muslim” person that has been extended to mean “Africans” more generally) are visible in several places in Kochi and Thrissur regions. Although histories of forced African migrations to seaports on the Malabar Coast in Kerala may not be featured in institutional discourses, memories of Africans in coastal Kerala are conserved through rituals and beliefs directed towards Kappiri—an afflicted spirit who guides, heals, and bestows his benevolence to those who recall and recognize his burdened collective histories.

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