

Recent Books from Africa – Jan 2020

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Biography/Memoirs

A Zambian Journalist: In Pursuit of Three Freedoms / Mike Daka
Lusaka, Zambia: Gadsden Publishers, 2019
viii, 226p. ; 229x152mm.
Includes Selected Bibliography
9789982241175
\$ 32.00 / PB
362gm.

Mike Daka's story is a fascinating account that is at once the story of an extraordinary journalist, and rich insight into the history of the media and journalism in Zambia and Southern Africa. Born into humble circumstances, his journey took him into journalism as reporter and editor and then to shaping and leading the Zambia Institute of Mass Communication which taught generations of journalists through changing political circumstances. Never one to shy away from a challenge, Daka retired from Zamcom to start Breeze FM in Chipata, a radio station that became internationally renowned for its unique character as a commercial operation that provides community and public service.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685416>

Letter From America: Memoir of an Adopted Child / Gil Ndi-Shang
Cameroon: Spears Media Press LLC, 2019
xviii, 234p. ; 229x152mm.
9781942876489
\$ 30.00 / PB
370gm.

Inspired by Alistair Cooke's masterpiece "Letter from America" (1934-2004) that depicted the transformation of British culture in the United States of America, Ndi-Shang's text redefines 'America', focusing on the melting pot engendered by African, indigenous, European and Asian cultures in Latin America through the case of Peru, the erstwhile epicentre of Spanish empire in Latin America. It is a reflection on the triangular relationship between Africa, Europe and America against the backdrop of slavery and (neo-) colonialism which continue to define intimate experiences, daily interactions, personal trajectories and human relations in a 'globalized world'. Ndi-Shang probes into

the legacies of racial inequalities but also the possibilities of a new ethic of encounter amongst human beings/cultures. The text is based on an intricate interweaving of the humorous with the tragic, the personal with the global, the historical with the current and the real with the creative.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685417>

My Life, My Purpose: A Tanzanian President Remembers / Benjamin William Mkapa
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: Mkuki n Nyota Publishers Ltd, 2019
xii, 320p. 229x152mm.; Colour Photographs.

Includes Index

9789987083039

\$ 30.00 / PB

600gm.

His Excellency Benjamin Mkapa was Tanzanian's third president, elected under the first multi-party general election in Tanzania. His memoirs range from his childhood, time as president, and his continuing post-retirement involvement on the international stage of development and peace mediation. This book will appeal to readers interested in: an African's personal experiences of colonialism in East Africa; the struggle for independence by the liberation movements of several African countries; how war helped unify the diverse citizens of a young nation; fostering nationalism and addressing ethnic and religious differences; the economic and social aspects of transition to socialism and then to a free market environment; the political transition from a single party state to multi-partyism; and relations with international organisations and development partners. During the ten years of his presidency he undertook substantial reforms, such as the privatisation of national assets, securing international debt relief and restructuring the public service. His Excellency writes of his childhood, his political maturation, the evolution of the State and politics in Tanzania, as well as some political upheavals in neighbouring countries. These memoirs are enriched by his views on leadership and advice for aspiring leaders. After Julius Nyerere, few books have been written by senior Tanzanian leaders on the evolution of Tanzania; in fact more literature has been produced by foreigners than Tanzanians, thus H.E. Mkapa's memoirs are a milestone. This book will appeal to aspiring leaders; students of development, international politics and diplomacy; those working for development partners; historians and those who want to know more about their Tanzanian heritage.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685418>

Economics

Financing Africa / Attiya Waris

Bamenda, Cameroon: Langaa RPCIG, 2019

xxiv, 192p. ; 229x152mm. ; Colour Illustration.

9789956551491

\$ 40.00 / PB

326gm.

Financing Africa's development requires ingenuity, discipline, and an understanding of fiscal systems – the entirety of government revenues and expenditures, including taxation and debt. This book makes fascinating what might seem at first glance complex. It describes diverse approaches that have been adjusted to local circumstances across the continent and reflects on the push to unite and harmonise toward African union. Africa is rich, yet resources are lost through loopholes in fiscal systems. Financial resources come from the people, are not unlimited, and do not come easily or without cost. Africans must therefore cherish these resources and use them in nation-building and national and regional development. Efficient, effective, transparent and accountable fiscal systems that are fair and just, will go a long way toward financing Africa's development. Using examples from all of Africa's 54 countries, the book makes fiscal matters real and understandable for people, no matter their field. It demonstrates the importance of fiscal law and policy for development and the impact it has on individuals, communities, nations, regional groupings, and the continent.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685419>

Social Protection in Africa: A Study of Paradigms and Contexts / (Ed) Mutiat Titilope Oladejo, Nkechinyere Okoli-Uwajumogu & Olakune A. Tijani
Ibadan, Nigeria: Reamsworth Publishing Limited, 2019
xiv, 232p. ; 229x152mm. ; Colour Illustrations.

Includes Index

9789789743452

\$ 45.00 / PB

368gm.

Social Protection is an area of policy and development in Africa responsible for ensuring inclusive growth and the provision of social needs which sustain human well-being. This book contains essays which analyse the role of government and non-government organisations in the provision of social protection needs for citizens in Africa, and reflect the socio-political and economic considerations underlying policy implementation. The essayists come from various disciplines such as geography, history, technology, political science and gender studies.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685420>

Linguistics

Perspective Linguistiques et Sociolinguistiques des Pratiques Linguistiques jeunes en Afrique: Codes et écritures identitaires = Linguistic and Sociolinguistic Perspective of Youth Language Practices in Africa: Codes and Identity Writing / (Eds) Gratien Gualbert Atindogbe & Augustin Emmanuel Ebongue
Bamenda, Cameroon: Langaa RPCIG, 2019
xxviii, 428p. ; 229x152mm.

9789956551378

In English and French

\$ 45.00 / PB
660gm.

With the demographic explosion of young people in major African cities, we are witnessing the emergence of youth languages and new speech forms. In search of well-being, these young people, plagued by poverty, social injustice, unemployment and idleness, invent linguistic codes that allow them to find themselves. The linguistic and sociolinguistic description of these youth languages is the object of this volume. The contributions inform on the statutes and functions of the youth languages of Africa, their forms and structures, their representations, and envisage perspectives and prospective didactics.

Avec l'explosion démographique des jeunes dans les grandes villes africaines, on assiste, à une émergence de langues et de parlers jeunes. En quête de bien-être, ces jeunes, en proie à la pauvreté, aux injustices sociales, au chômage et à l'oisiveté, inventent des codes linguistiques leur permettant de se retrouver. C'est la description linguistique et sociolinguistique de ces parlers, qui fait l'objet de ce collectif. Les contributions informent à cet effet sur les statuts et fonctions des parlers et langues jeunes d'Afrique, leurs formes et structures, les représentations entretenues à leur égard, et envisage des perspectives et prospectives didactiques.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685421>

Religion-Christianity

Religion and Development in Southern and Central Africa, Vol. I / (Ed) James N. Amanze (et al.)

Mzuzu, Malawi: Mzuni Press, 2019

504p. ; 229x152mm.

Includes Bibliography

9789996060380

Mzuni Books No. 37

\$ 50.00 / PB

762gm.

This book is a result of a joint conference, which was held from 18th-22nd July 2017 under the theme Religion, Citizenship and Development – Southern African Perspectives." The theme of the conference was adopted in order to underline the importance and significance of religion in the socio-economic development of people in the world generally and in Southern and Central Africa in particular. The papers in the book are divided into two volumes. Volume one consists of papers which directly discuss religion and development in one form or another. The second volume contains papers that discuss religion and other pertinent issues related to development. The papers are grouped into sub-themes for ease of reference. These include Citizenship and Development, Migration and Development, Disability and Development, Pentecostal Churches and Development and Religion and Society. All in all, despite a divergence of sub-themes in volume two, all point to issues to do with the role of religion in development in Southern and Central Africa today.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685422>

Literature

Windows into Zimbabwe: An Anthology of Short Stories (Compiled & Intro) Franziska Kramer & Jurgen Kramer
Harare, Zimbabwe: Weaver Press, 2019
xxxvi, 288p. ; 216x140mm.
9781779223692
\$ 25.00 / HB
576gm.

Over the past fifteen years, Weaver Press has published seven anthologies of some one hundred short stories giving voice to new and established Zimbabwean writers. In Windows into Zimbabwe Franziska Kramer and Jürgen Kramer have selected from these anthologies twenty-three stories, which they consider the best or most representative of a particular period in the Zimbabwean narrative since 1980. They present the stories within sections which frame certain themes such as Independence, Gukurahundi, Land, Gender Relations, Money Matters, Social Relations, Exile and Resilience.

For the general reader, Windows into Zimbabwe contains some wonderful stories rich in insight, perception, nuance and humour. Writers such as Charles Mungoshi, Petina Gappah, NoViolet Bulawayo, Valerie Tagwira and Shimmer Chinodya are included as well as relative newcomers with new perceptions and fresh voices. The compilers have also provided an introductory overview casting light on the relationship between fiction and society; and for teachers (in schools, colleges and universities) each story is accompanied by explanatory notes, questions and study tasks to further the reader's understanding. Windows into Zimbabwe will positively deepen your appreciation of the country and its people.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685423>

Sacred Songs / Bill F. Ndi
Bamenda, Cameroon: Langaa RPCIG, 2019
viii, 100p.
9789956551255
\$ 16.00 / PB
132gm.

Bill F. Ndi's *Sacred Songs* is a collection of 95 sonnets deeply rooted in the tradition of spiritual testimony of faith. The personae in the poems are a creed of believers who are never far away from their God to whom be all glory. These poems are all in praise of the works of the Almighty God in the life of all. Bill F. Ndi in his characteristic simplicity and songlike style stays close to his humanist vision, and socio-political anguish, which he skillfully weaves in spirituality. Tacitly assuming responsibility for his foibles as human,

the poet forfeits every other hard-to-overcome obstacle of divine nature, into the hands of God Almighty. This collection embraces, in a refreshing way, biblical precepts of freedom as well as contemporary social, economic, political, and even philosophical notions of freedom and oppression. This is a pleasurable collection to read in its entirety; it is a man's sobering reflection on and of the divine.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685424>

Things Left Unsaid / Rosabelle Boswell
Bamenda, Cameroon: Langaa RPCIG, 2019
46p.
9789956551026
\$ 16.00 / PB
70gm.

In South Africa issues of identity remain a pressing concern and preoccupation. For some, the experience of feeling that one does not belong in South Africa, especially among Africans and African descendants, appears to be intensifying. In this first collection of poems, Rosabelle Boswell speaks of the many places in which ordinary Africans born outside of South Africa try to achieve belonging. They do so in the family context, the backyard, language, the meeting, familiar landscapes and dreams. The poems also foreground the tumult of emotions that rise from the experience of exclusion and the results of pressure when one must conform. There is panic and dislocation, desperation, fear and sense of marginality when one's work and achievements are reduced to whether one is born in South Africa or not. According to the poet, in such a context, one can only achieve true freedom from the tyranny of belonging by psychologically walking away from the expectations of those in power and putting oneself in a 'clearing' where flexibility, openness and newness reside. The forest of expectations remains, but we can achieve temporary respite from it by walking away now and again. The collection spans two years of writing identity in a different form, poetry.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685425>
