

Recent Books from Cameroun – Nov 2021

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Biography/Memoirs

Mhlakaza in the Changing Southern Africa : An Account of A
Period of Upheavals (1934-2020) : The Memoirs of Dr V A
Mhlakaza / Vincent Aarone Mhlakaza

Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2021

x, 194p. ; 229x152mm.

9789956552269

\$ 30.00 / PB

304gm.

These beautifully crafted Memoirs reveal to us the journey of life, through childhood and adulthood, of a man who has been sincerely committed to all he undertook. As a teacher and lecturer, a community development worker, an author and devoted Catholic, with his wife and family by his side, he has given himself unreservedly in the service of others. Alongside his reflections about his personal journey, we gain insights into the history and political changes in Lesotho and South Africa, and the evolution of the Catholic Church in that context. Whether interested in what shapes a person's character and how he lives out the values with which he is imbued, or in the transition of South Africa from apartheid to freedom and Lesotho from protectorate to constitutional monarchy, readers will find these Memoirs elucidating and rewarding. Dr Vincent Mhlakaza has already published several collections of short stories (*Lekomo*, 1992, *Seotlong*,

1994, *Tikamotse*, 1999) and *Lipale le Litšomo tsa Andersen* (2010), a translation of 12 of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales. *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam* (2016) is a collection of hymns, offered in several South African languages, with tonic sol-fa notation. He has received two first prize literary awards, in 1993 for *Lekomo* and in 1999 for *Tikamotse*. A novel, *Rapitso*, remains unpublished (Sarah Westcott, Oxford, UK).

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=781477>

Community Stewardship / Abel Ndeh Sanjou-Tadzong
Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2021

xiv, 112p.

9789956552610

\$ 22.00 / PB

152gm.

Ours is a world that is constituted and reinvented through the personal and shared stories we tell. In the spirit and understanding that each and every one of us, however big or small, has a story to tell, I am pleased to share with you this modest account of myself, who rose from very humble beginnings into community stewardship. It is only one story from one vantage point, which I hope will contribute to the dynamism and quest for recreation in eternity that makes our world what it is: a melting pot of experiences. My idea is to expose and share my personal experience with others and hopefully, leave them with a thing or two to take along in their own life journeys. This approach is a school from where people's minds are tickled with new ideas and sooner or later, develop their intellectual and human capacities as caring and sharing beings. Through the story of my life, I want to create an awareness for people to stay focused on some basic principles or virtues of life such as belief and faith in the forces, big and small, that shape our affairs in ways we can only marvel at. The story is also an invitation to cherish virtues such as hard work, honesty, empathy, justice, love and respect,

trust, confidence, transparency and accountability. These virtues are indispensable for in our quest and commitment to peaceful coexistence and to unity in our creative diversity as humans of various races and cultures. Let us accept and emulate shining examples. Let's reject all forms of animosity, hatred, jealousy, greed, blackmail, corruption, embezzlement, but bow down in reverence to all that is noble, good and accepted by all and sundry. This, in essence, is my modest message in Community Stewardship.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=781478>

Ecology/Environmental Studies

'African Potentials' for Wildlife Conservation and Natural Resources Management : Against the Images of 'Deficiency' and Tyranny of 'Fortress' / (Ed) Toshio Meguro, Chihiro Ito & Kariuki Kirigia (Series Ed) Motoji Matsuda

Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2021

xx, 358p. ; 229x152mm.

Includes Index

9789956552856

African Potentials: Convivial Perspective for the Future of Humanity, Volume 6

\$ 55.00 / PB

552gm.

This book focuses on two specific areas: wildlife conservation policies and projects, and the interaction between local societies and the surrounding environment in Africa. Against the internationally dominant approach that regards Africa as being a state of 'deficiency', this book demonstrates, based on fieldwork concerning various natural resources (e.g. wildlife, forests, fruit, fish and land) as well as many famous protected areas, that African people are collectively and actively trying to solve the environmental problems they are facing by strategically utilising both indigenous means and new extrinsic opportunities. Meanwhile, it also becomes clear that

wildlife conservation still continues to cause local societies a multitude of problems, and the 'potentials' of local people and societies are existing but unnoticed and suppressed by powerful outsiders, and therefore, remaining informal and invisible.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=781479>

Economics

Covid 19 and the Dialectics of Global Pandemics in Africa :
Challenges, Opportunities and the Future of the Global
Economy in the Face of COVID-19 / (Eds) Munyaradzi Mawere,
Bernard Chazovachii & Francis Machingura
Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2021
336p. ; 229x152mm.
9789956552023
\$ 55.00 / PB
492gm.

The prevalence of global pandemics has been timeless and universal. In 1918, the Spanish Flu grounded Spain and her neighbours. In 1997, 2014 and 2020, the Ebola virus wreaked havoc in West Africa in the same manner that polio had ravaged the globe. Since 2019, the Coronavirus has forced most economies onto a downward spiral. Despite concerted global attempts at observing World Health Organization guidelines, the Coronavirus has been changing peoples' lives, forcing most economies onto their knees, endangering lives and livelihoods, making a mockery of global medicine and causing the widespread despair and helplessness that has come to be known as 'the new normal'. Unlike the other pandemics, the mayhem, complexities and dialectics caused by Covid-19 have been matchless, requiring a systematic study and necessitating a volume like this one. The volume's 16 well-researched chapters argue that despite Covid-19's enormous lessons and predictions about even greater future pandemics, humanity can ill-afford to relent in its determination to

conquer the pandemic in the same way that human resolve has defeated past pandemic. As such, the volume provides hope and direction to the global community on how best to deal with Covid-19 and pandemics of similar or even higher magnitude in the future.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=781480>

Literature

Behold the College Girls / Mary Ngwebong Ngu

Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2021

xiv, 274p. ; 203x127mm.

9789956552146

\$ 17.00 / PB

254gm.

Behold The College Girls is the story of how students in an exclusive girls' mission boarding school interact with one another, on the one hand, and with their principal and staff, on the other. It portrays the power play between senior and junior level students, particularly the obstinate Form 2 students. Other struggles show students taking on the challenge of inadequate meals as well as the prohibition to entertain romantic relations with boys of other colleges within the city. It equally highlights key events like spending a day with boys, and the Vocational Week aimed at recruiting reverend sisters. The story brings to the fore the shared views of four key actors on main occurrences, with one of them featuring in every event, and thanks to whom the setting changes from the college campus to the outside world, particularly the village. In the closing chapter, readers cannot help but sympathise with the key protagonist due to the quandary she is facing- to pursue higher education or not, and if so, where? Thus, Behold The College Girls ends with a suspense. Answers can only be supplied through a sequel.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=781481>
