### Recent Books from Gambia-Feb 2022

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## **Biography/Memoirs**

Childhood Days in Chaku Bantang / Baba Galleh Jallow Gambia: Baba Galleh Jallow, 2020 102p. 97899839400707 \$ 35.00 / PB 144gm.

Set in a village in Farafenni in the Northern Region of The Gambia, Childhood Days In Chaku Bantang is a collection of memories from the author's early childhood and adolescence. Written in light-hearted, simple, almost child-like language, the book pieces together memories so vivid and vibrant, that the reader finds themselves stepping into Chaku Bantang, seeing through the eyes of the writer and feeling so intensely, the joys, the excitements, the fears and disappointments of Galleh, the child whose experiences it narrates. A plethora of emotions are stirred as the stories unfold, yet, there are two feelings which override all others and which are present from the beginning to the very end of the novel. They are feelings of the deepest fondness and amusement, which keep the reader smiling and chuckling through the entire book, even through the less joyful parts.

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# **History**

Creaole Saga: The Gambia's Liberated African Community in the Nineteenth Century

/ Asi Florence Mahoney

Gambia: Asi Florence Mahoney, 2006

240p.

Includes Index; Bibliography

9789983953701

\$ 40.00 / PB 294gm.

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Masters and Servants: Gambian Chiefs in Colonial Rule (1894-1965) / Hassoums

Ceesay

Banjul: The Gambia National Museum, 2022

vi, 94p.

9789983960631

\$35.00 / PB

142gm.

The premise of this work is twofold: one, that unlike in other British colonies in West Africa, colonial rule in the Gambia was anchored largely on the support and loyalty of district chiefs, and not on military might, complex colonial administrative machinery or massive propaganda. Two, that Gambian chiefs expressed keen loyalty to the British throughout the colonial period through confidence building measures like sending their children to school, support to Britain during the two World Wars, mobilising local resources and labour for infrastructure development and by running efficient Native Tribunals and Treasuries which provided the social and fiscal control needed for colonial stability and exploitation. This book is a great addition to the literature on Gambian history.

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#### Literature

Saani Baat: Aspects of African Literature and Culture (Senegambian and Other African Essays) / Tijan M. Sallah Trenton, New Jersey, USA: Africa World Press (AWP), 2021

xiv, 186p. Includes Index; Bibliography 9781569026984 \$ 40.00 / PB

242gm.

The title of this book of literary criticism Saani Baat: Aspects of African Literature and Culture, comes from the Wolof, Saani Baat, which literally means to throw one s voice in a conversation. In this rich and path-breaking collection of literary essays and criticism, the noted Gambian writer, Tijan M. Sallah, explores in provocative essays the theme of whether there is a Gambian national literature and how it

differs from the literature of Senegal; explores the metaphysical systems and oratures of the Wolof and Jola peoples of Senegal and The Gambia; discusses the new Gambian poets and their poetry, and examines the writings and life of the late veteran Gambian writer, Lenrie Peters. In critically evaluating the metaphysical systems of the Wolof and the Jola, the book presents enormously rich, new information that has never been documented before and that had remained largely buried in oral traditions. The book also revisits and sheds new light on the diaspora movement, the Harlem Renaissance, and reclaims the poet-slave, Phillis Wheatley, the founding mother of African American literature, to her Senegambian origins. The book ends by looking at the poetry of Nigeria s Tanure Ojaide, one of Africa s preeminent poets, and also takes a look at the life of that veteran African novelist, Chinua Achebe, who has been described as the founding father of the African novel. This book is an intriguingly rich collection of literary essays that is bound to provoke discussions among those interested in Senegambian, Nigerian and, for that matter, African literature.

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Girl Who Dared to Dream / Ena Loum London, UK: Olympia Publishers, 2021 220p. 9781788308649 \$ 40.00 / PB 384gm.

Gina's world falls apart when she loses her husband in a plane crash in mysterious circumstances. She is suddenly left with three children to bring up on her own. Yet she dares to dream and rises to the position of Head of Finance for a London textiles firm. When the new CEO, the handsome, successful entrepreneur Shahid Malick arrives to rescue the ailing company, he proves to be everything she could wish for in a man, and the feeling is mutual. Yet his confident manner and immaculate business credentials mask profound sadness from a dark past that he is finally able to unload. As they draw closer together and their passion, love and commitment deepen, she finds that her own past unexpectedly catches up with her and huge reserves of inner resolve are called for as her dreams are tested to the limit. <a href="http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791963">http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791963</a>

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The Adventures of Alkatan: Man of Truth / Baba Galleh Jallow

Gambia: Baba Galleh Jallow, 2021

x, 71p.

9789983940978

\$ 25.00 / PB 110gm.

The adventures of Alkatan are profoundly allegorical. They bring to mind the Gambia's experiences with dictatorship, abuse of power and the ensuing ills. Alkatan's successes at defeating evil teach reassuring (and very amusing) lessons about the ultimate inevitability of justice, and about compassion as a driving force for action against evil and impurity.

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Did They Commit Incest and Other Stories / Musa Bah Gambia: Musa Bah, 2021 84p. \$ 30.00 / PB 110gm.

An extremely cunning thief has rocked the area and is wreaking havoc on the properties of residents. Her intelligence allows her to elude law enforcement for a long time. She transports her loot into the neighbouring countries, beating all their traps. Her wit has earned her a name in the press as they dub her 'Chokeer' (bush foul, known for its wit). So, she seems to be invincible.

That is until they assigned Detective Inspector Musa Jallow, whose detective prowess is legendary in the force. He sniffs and follows her trail. But as they embark on a duel of wits, an unpleasant surprise awaits DI Jallow and his colleagues. These and other stories in this collection of short-stories.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791965

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Ariala / Mary Caroline Gomez Gambia: Mary Caroline Gomez, 2011 64p. 998399271X \$ 25.00 / PB 96gm.

Ariala is a spellbinding short story by a writer with a vast potential for the future. The story is written in a creative suspense-filled style, with round characters and byzantine plots.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791966

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Fate of a Concubine / Abdoulie Senghore

Kanifing: Fulladu Publishers, 2021 48p. 9789983941142 \$ 25.00 / PB 68gm.

Though she was from a poor family, Mata grew up to be a happy and beautiful girl, admired by all. In secret, she falls in love with the village celebrity, Biji, and they meet regularly at a secret place to enjoy each other's company. With a swift turn of fate, her parents force her to marry a man older than her father. Happiness deserts her. In perpetual despair and unfulfilled conjugal expectations, Mata struggles through her domestic duties on a daily basis. Then the whisperer comes and strange things start to happen.

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Healing Words: Medical Poetry and Prose / Medpoetry: Healing Words, (Eds) Kebba S. Bojang & Joy S. Buchanan (Foreword) Tijan M. Sallah Malang Regency, Indonesia: Maknawi (CV. Maknawi), 2021 xl, 140p. 9786239702083 \$30.00 / PB 224gm.

#### **Book Details:**

"The unlikely union of poetry and medicine has rational and affective dimensions. Poetry works to cure the disease of the psyche and soul, whereas medicine works, using human skill and an arsenal of herbal and chemical cornucopia, to cure the diseases of the body. This anthology, *Healing Words: Medical Poetry and Prose*, offers an encounter with poetry and prose from practitioners of the medical profession (doctors, nurses) and non-practitioners (patients, ordinary folk) from around the world—Africa, Asia, Europe and North America and the Caribbean—who share experiences related to the challenges of illness and taking care of the ill. It is significant in bringing together voices from around the world to tackle subjects so germane to human existence: disease and illness and the challenges of prevention and cure. The fact that the voices are mostly healthcare personnel addressing their experiences by letting loose their prose and poetic muses makes this collection rich and enticing. It holds within its pages many lovely and unsettling poems and prose narratives that will cajole, enlighten, and entertain." - Tijan M. Sallah, PhD, economist and author of numerous books of poetry, short stories, ethnography,

scholarly articles and books, including a biography of Chinua Achebe, Africa's foremost novelist.

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### **Official Publications**

Annual Public Debt Bulletin, 2020 [Gambia] / Directorate of Loans and Debt Banjul: Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, 2021

1v.

\$ 25.00 / PB

78gm.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791532

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# **Religion-Christianity**

The Focus Minded Man: Lessons From The Book Of Nehemiah / Adefisayo

Adefarakan

Lagos, Nigeria: Profemative Concepts Int'l, 2021

90p.

9789789835164

\$ 10.00 / PB

154gm.

Nehemiah was concerned about his homeland; hence he did not waste any opportunity to get updates about the situation of Jerusalem. This burden became the seed for the rebuilding and ultimately the revival of the land. This book is simply a record of God's revelation to the author as he studied the book of Nehemiah. It is indeed a reinforcement of what God can do when there is a willing man who is not bothered about opposition and circumstance. It is part of a series of Self Discovery Bible Studies.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791969

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