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The Combing of History - David William Cohen 1994-06-25
How is historical knowledge produced? And how do silence and forgetting figure in the knowledge we call history? Taking us through time and across the globe, David William Cohen's exploration of these questions exposes the circumstantial nature of history. His investigation uncovers the conventions and paradigms that govern historical knowledge and historical texts and reveals the economic, social, and political forces at play in the production of history. Drawing from a wide range of examples, including African legal proceedings, German and American museum exhibits, Native American commemorations, public and academic debates, and scholarly research, David William Cohen explores the "walls and passageways" between academic and non-academic productions of history.

Diplomatic Para-citations - Sam Okoth Opondo 2022-02-09
This book combines poetry, prose, and theory in ways that speak to each other to offer new insight to the connectedness of the colonial world.

Ambiguous Pleasures - Rachel Spronk 2012
Among both male and female young urban professionals in Nairobi, sexuality is a key to achieving a 'modern' identity. These young men and women see themselves as the avant garde of a new Africa, while they also express the recurring worry of how to combine an 'African' identity with the new lifestyles with which they are experimenting. By focusing on public debates and their preoccupations with issues of African heritage, gerontocratic power relations, and conventional morality on the one hand, and personal sexual relationships, intimacy, and self-perceptions on the other, this study works out the complexities of sexuality and culture in the context of modernity in an African society. It moves beyond an investigation of a health or development perspective of sexuality and instead examines desire, pleasure, and eroticism, revealing new insights into the methodology and theory of the study of sexuality within the social sciences. Sexuality serves as a prism for analyzing how social developments generate new notions of self in postcolonial Kenya and is a crucial component towards understanding the way people recognize and deal with modern changes in their personal lives.

Poverty Knowledge in South Africa - Grace Davie 2015-02-05

This book discusses unconventional ways of measuring and addressing poverty in South Africa, which remains one of the country's biggest challenges.

Burying SM - David William Cohen 1992
Examines the complex sociologies, politics and histories of the debates that arose after the death of Kenyan lawyer S.M.Otieno and the struggle over where his body should be buried. The dispute between his wife and members of Otieno's clan revealed a range of issues as diverse as the meaning of death and the purpose of interment, the standing of statutory and traditional law, the nature of marriage, and the value and power of such constructs as 'modernity', 'tradition', 'Kenyan',

'Luo' and 'home'. North America: Heinemann

The Politics of Custom - John L. Comaroff 2018-03-08
Includes bibliographical references and index.

Home and Identity in Late Life - Graham D. Rowles, PhD 2005-09-01

Leading scholars, offering international and multidisciplinary viewpoints, examine the meaning of home to elders and the ways in which this meaning may be sustained, threatened, or modified according to changes associated with growing old. Organized into four sections--The Essence of Home, Disruptions of Home, Creating and Recreating Home, and Community Perspectives on the Meaning of Home, this volume explores topics including: What makes a house a home? What role does the meaning of home play in the process of relocation to another place of residence? What is the relationship between a person's home life and cherished possessions such as symbolic jewelry or religious items in late life? How does the community/neighborhood environment influence the way that older people feel about the places in which they live? Contributors include Hans-Werner Wahl, Robert L. Rubinstein, Edmund Sherman, Carolyn Norris-Baker, and Rick Scheidt, among others. As a special feature, this volume concludes with critical commentaries from three eminent scholars, Amos Rapoport, Kim Dovey, and Marie Versperi. This volume will be of interest to practitioners, researchers, upper-level graduates/graduate-level students in gerontology, environmental psychology, social work, and nursing. It will be valuable to everyone in the helping professions who seek a deeper understanding of the ways in which "being at home" and attachment to place plays a key role in the life experience and well-being of their clients as they grow older.

Cartography and the Political Imagination - Julie MacArthur 2016-06-30

After four decades of British rule in colonial Kenya, a previously unknown ethnic name – “Luyia” – appeared on the official census in 1948. The emergence of the Luyia represents a clear case of ethnic “invention.” At the same time, current restrictive theories privileging ethnic homogeneity fail to explain this defiantly diverse ethnic project, which now comprises the second-largest ethnic group in Kenya. In *Cartography and the Political Imagination*, which encompasses social history, geography, and political science, Julie MacArthur unpacks Luyia origins. In so doing, she calls for a shift to understanding geographic imagination and mapping not only as means of enforcing imperial power and constraining colonized populations, but as tools for articulating new political communities and dissent. Through cartography, Luyia ethnic patriots crafted an identity for themselves characterized by plurality, mobility, and cosmopolitan belonging. While other historians have focused on the official maps of imperial surveyors, MacArthur scrutinizes the ways African communities adopted and adapted mapping strategies to their own ongoing creative projects. This book marks an

important reassessment of current theories of ethnogenesis, investigates the geographic imaginations of African communities, and challenges contemporary readings of community and conflict in Africa.

Political Legitimacy in Middle Africa - Michael G. Schatzberg 2001-11-13

"... refreshing and provocative... a significant addition to existing literature on African politics." -- Stephen Ellis "It opens up a whole new field of investigation, and brings into focus the pertinence of an interdisciplinary approach to African politics." -- Ren  Lemarchand In this innovative work, Michael G. Schatzberg reads metaphors found in the popular press as indicators of the way Africans come to understand their political universe. Examining daily newspapers, popular literature, and political and church documents from across middle Africa, Schatzberg finds that widespread and deeply ingrained views of government and its relationship to its citizenry may be understood as a projection of the metaphor of an idealized extended family onto the formal political sphere. Schatzberg's careful observations and sensitive interpretations uncover the moral and social factors that shape the African political universe while showing how some African understandings of politics and political power may hamper or promote the development of Western-style democracy. *Political Legitimacy in Middle Africa* looks closely at elements of African moral and political thought and offers a nuanced assessment of whether democracy might flourish were it to be established on middle African terms.

African Traditions Meeting Islam - Lawrence Oseje 2018-12-31

In many communities across the world traditional beliefs and practices are passed down generations and are a feature of day-to-day life, despite the influence of outside sources. Focusing on Luo Muslims in Kenya, Dr Lawrence Oseje looks at the interaction of Islam and traditional Luo practices, especially those around death and burial. Dr Oseje's research with Luo Muslims in Kendu Bay investigates the impact of the traditional Luo conceptualization of death with their current views, and provides new understanding of fundamental issues that affect the lives of ordinary Muslims. From his observation of this community, Oseje encourages a celebration of traditions and customs, showing that an appreciation of traditions and beliefs can help develop ministry to local communities. Dr Oseje's findings result in a deepened understanding of cultures, how they develop from a blend of influences, and provides anthropological and missiological guidelines for cross-cultural ministry, particularly in times of bereavement. *Religion and Politics in Kenya* - B. Knighton 2009-09-14 Addresses the various political aspects of the Kenyan political mosaic during the time of Bishop David Gitari, later Archbishop 1997-2002. These essays focus on both this courageous man and the various aspects of the political mosaic in Kenya at that time to 2008, in an effort to bring out the religious dimensions of Kenyan and African politics.

Politics of the Womb - Lynn M. Thomas 2003-08-20

"In Thomas's skilled hands, and in her unabashed love of story-telling, intimate events in Kenya help us think more clearly and more critically about Africa in the twentieth century. The politics of the womb are at the core of the colonial experience and of colonial politics... Africans struggled amongst themselves over the regulation of reproduction, and these layers of intimate strife, and the policies and protests emanating from London and mission hospitals and African homesteads, give us something we haven't had before-- a gendered and transnational colonial history."--Luise White, author of *Speaking with Vampires: Rumor and History in Colonial Africa*

The Political Lives of Dead Bodies - Katherine Verdery

1999-04-07

Since 1989, scores of bodies across Eastern Europe have been exhumed and brought to rest in new gravesites. Katherine Verdery investigates why certain corpses--the bodies of revolutionary leaders, heroes, artists, and other luminaries, as well as more humble folk--have taken on a political life in the turbulent times following the end of Communist Party rule, and what roles they play in revising the past and reorienting the present. Enlivening and invigorating the dialogue on postsocialist politics, this imaginative study helps us understand the dynamic and deeply symbolic nature of politics--and how it can breathe new life into old bones. *Transforming Capitalism and Patriarchy* - April A. Gordon 1996

Gordon analyzes the interplay between capitalism, development and the status of African women. Drawing on the work of both African and Western researchers, she shows that capitalist development projects have mainly benefited a small stratum of African elites and proposes concrete strategies for making it more equitable for women.

The Human Tradition in Modern Africa - Dennis D. Cordell 2012

This collection of biographies of African men and women adds a human dimension to our understanding of African history since 1800. These life stories show how people survived by resisting European conquest and colonial rule, by collaborating with colonial powers, or by finding a middle way to live their lives. The book traces the era of independence since the 1960s through challenges to the rule of African dictators, struggles for the rights of women and mothers, the exploitation of youth and child soldiers, and economic booms and busts.

Rethinking the Mau Mau in Colonial Kenya - S. Alam 2007-10-01

This offers an alternative to the colonialist and nationalist explanations of the Mau Mau revolt, examining a widely studied period of Kenyan history from a new perspective.

Siaya - David William Cohen 1989

Exceptional Spaces - Della Pollock 2018-06-15

Taking interdisciplinary and diverse approaches, these thirteen essays explore the multifaceted relationship between performance and history. By considering performance as both a useful frame for understanding historical practices and a mode of historical production itself--performance in history and performance as history--the contributors chart new directions in such fields as cultural studies, contemporary historiography, museum studies, and life narrative research. Geographically and chronologically, the collection's sweep is broad--ranging from the nineteenth century to the present, from Victorian theater to commissions of inquiry in Kenya, from dissent in post-Soviet Lithuania to plantation tours in the American South. Together, the essays make up a work that is truly interdisciplinary in breadth and focus. By combining the methodologies of history and performance studies, the contributors illuminate the structure and function of cultural production in all its forms. The contributors are Michael S. Bowman, Ruth Laurion Bowman, Elizabeth Gray Buck, Kay Ellen Capo, David William Cohen, Tracy Davis, Kirk W. Fuoss, Shannon Jackson, D. Soyini Madison, Carol Mavor, E. S. Atieno Odhiambo, Della Pollock, Jeffrey H. Richards, and Joseph R. Roach.

Africanizing Knowledge - Toyin Falola 2017-11-30

Nearly four decades ago, Terence Ranger questioned to what extent African history was actually African, and whether methods and concerns derived from Western historiography were really sufficient tools for researching and narrating African history. Despite a blossoming and branching out of Africanist scholarship in the last twenty years, that question is still

haunting. The most prestigious locations for production of African studies are outside Africa itself, and scholars still seek a solution to this paradox. They agree that the ideal solution would be a flowering of institutions of higher learning within Africa which would draw not only Africanist scholars, but also financial resources to the continent. While the focus of this volume is on historical knowledge, the effort to make African scholarship "more African" is fundamentally interdisciplinary. The essays in this volume employ several innovative methods in an effort to study Africa on its own terms. The book is divided into four parts. Part 1, "Africanizing African History," offers several diverse methods for bringing distinctly African modes of historical discourse to the foreground in academic historical research. Part 2, "African Creative Expression in Context," presents case studies of African art, literature, music, and poetry. It attempts to strip away the exotic or primitivist aura such topics often accumulate when presented in a foreign setting in order to illuminate the social, historical, and aesthetic contexts in which these works of art were originally produced. Part 3, "Writing about Colonialism," demonstrates that the study of imperialism in Africa remains a springboard for innovative work, which takes familiar ideas about Africa and considers them within new contexts. Part 4, "Scholars and Their Work," critically examines the process of African studies itself, including the roles of scholars in the production of knowledge about Africa. This timely and thoughtful volume will be of interest to African studies scholars and students who are concerned about the ways in which Africanist scholarship might become "more African."

Ethnicity and Democracy in Africa - Bruce Berman
2004-09-30

The politics of identity and ethnicity will remain a fundamental characteristic of African modernity. For this reason, historians and anthropologists have joined political scientists in a discussion about the ways in which democracy can develop in multicultural societies. In *Ethnicity and Democracy in Africa*, the contributors address why ethnicity represents a political problem, how the problem manifests itself, and which institutional models offer ways of ameliorating the challenges that ethnicity poses to democratic nation-building.

Nairobi Today - Helene Charton-Bigot 2010-10-25

Despite being a large capital city in Africa in terms of size and its regional role, Nairobi is an unrecognised entity. For the majority of its inhabitants, the capital of Kenya is a transit point rather than a dwelling place. Since its origins, Nairobi has been a city of migrants, more predisposed to their rural roots than to their current city status. It is a non-conforming town, which conceals its urbanity more than it claims it, and whose identity remains evasive. Nairobi presents itself as a mosaic of residential areas which bring to mind the city's history. The racial segregation that stratified the development of the colonial city has today disappeared, but it has given way to a form of social segregation. One must, therefore, not seek a unique identity in Nairobi, but rather, several identities - those of different communities that comprise the city and whose dynamics are seen at village and residential estate level. However, Nairobi is also a city that is contradictory. This East African capital city is often associated with slums and crime, and their increase and growth stigmatises the failure of urban policies. Therefore, it is at these cracks and fringes of the city that we should seek out the identities and dynamics that have shaped the city for a century. Nairobi is a fragmented city that can be understood in steps. The 13 contributory articles in *Nairobi Today* thus reveal the city. This multidisciplinary collective work invites us

to gain entry into certain areas of the city, to visit its communities and to familiarise ourselves with its formal and informal institutions. This is a requirement in order to fully understand what makes Nairobi what it is today.

Popular Music, Ethnicity and Politics in the Kenya of the 1990s - T. Michael Mboya 2019-02-13

Okatch Biggy was the single most dominant benga artiste of the 1990s. Over that decade, benga was the most important genre of popular music in Kenya. What is it about the music of Okatch Biggy that made it attractive to his target audience, the Luo of the 1990s? Is there something about the Luo of the 1990s that predisposed them to this music? In the course of answering these—and related—questions, this volume analyzes Okatch Biggy's songs as works of art, that is, by identifying the aesthetic and rhetorical conventions that are deployed in the songs, and explores the central messages that the music transmits. It shows the significance of the meanings in Okatch Biggy's music for the Luo of the 1990s by situating it in the historical context from which it emerged. Literary instruments of analysis and contextualizing material gathered from various knowledge archives are deployed in the production of the textual meaning of the popular music of Okatch Biggy, which is used here as a lens through which to understand the relationship between politics and ethnicity in the Kenya of the 1990s. The book's carefully demonstrated argument is that, in both the form and the content of his music, Okatch Biggy undertook a comprehensive culturalist-nationalist project of Luo definition that was persuasive to his primary audience in the highly ethnicized political context in which he became successful. This is a timely study given the current renewed scholarly interest in African popular music that has come on the back of the rise of leisure studies and the reinvigoration of popular culture studies.

African Activists of the Twentieth Century - Hugh Macmillan 2023-01-24

An omnibus collection of concise and up-to-date biographies of four influential figures from modern African history. Chris Hani, by Hugh Macmillan Chris Hani was one of the most highly respected leaders of the African National Congress, the South African Communist Party, and uMkhonto we Sizwe. His assassination in 1993 threatened to upset the country's transition to democracy and prompted an intervention by Nelson Mandela that ultimately accelerated apartheid's demise. Wangari Maathai, by Tabitha Kanogo This concise biography tells the story of Wangari Maathai, the Kenyan activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner who devoted her life to campaigning for environmental conservation, sustainable development, democracy, human rights, gender equality, and the eradication of poverty. Josie Mpama/Palmer: Get Up and Get Moving, by Robert R. Edgar Highly critical of the patriarchal attitudes that hindered Black women's political activism, South Africa's Josie Mpama/Palmer was an outspoken advocate for women's social and political equality, a member of the Communist Party of South Africa, and an anti-apartheid activist. Ken Saro-Wiwa, by Roy Doron and Toyin Falola A penetrating, accessible portrait of the Nigerian activist whose execution galvanized the world. Ken Saro-Wiwa became a martyr and symbolized modern Africans' struggle against military dictatorship, corporate power, and environmental exploitation.

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the production of history. Drawing from a wide range of examples, including African legal proceedings, German and American museum exhibits, Native American commemorations, public and academic debates, and scholarly research, David William Cohen explores the "walls and passageways" between academic and non-academic productions of history.

Quest for Justice - Henry Okullu 1997

Dying Abroad - Osman Balkan 2023-05-31

An original and immersive account of how immigrant communities navigate end-of-life decisions while facing barriers to political inclusion and citizenship.

The Risks of Knowledge - David William Cohen 2004

The Risks of Knowledge minutely examines the multiple and unfinished investigations into the murder of Kenya's distinguished Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Robert Ouko, in February 1990. Public and international concern over Ouko's death led to renewed attention to the extent of governmental corruption the Moi era, and brought down the government of President Moi at the end of 2002.

Between History and Histories - Gerald M. Sider 1997-01-01

This collection of case studies from around the world uses a new approach in historical anthropology, one that focuses on heterogeneity within cultures rather than coherence to explain how we commemorate certain events, while silencing others.

Obama and Kenya - Matthew Carotenuto 2016-07-29

Barack Obama's political ascendancy has focused considerable global attention on the history of Kenya generally and the history of the Luo community particularly. From politicians populating the blogosphere and bookshelves in the U.S and Kenya, to tourists traipsing through Obama's ancestral home, a variety of groups have mobilized new readings of Kenya's past in service of their own ends. Through narratives placing Obama into a simplified, sweeping narrative of anticolonial barbarism and postcolonial "tribal" violence, the story of the United States president's nuanced relationship to Kenya has been lost amid stereotypical portrayals of Africa. At the same time, Kenyan state officials have aimed to weave Obama into the contested narrative of Kenyan nationhood. Matthew Carotenuto and Katherine Luongo argue that efforts to cast Obama as a "son of the soil" of the Lake Victoria basin invite insights into the politicized uses of Kenya's past. Ideal for classroom use and directed at a general readership interested in global affairs, Obama and Kenya offers an important counterpoint to the many popular but inaccurate texts about Kenya's history and Obama's place in it as well as focused, thematic analyses of contemporary debates about ethnic politics, "tribal" identities, postcolonial governance, and U.S. African relations.

Readings in African Politics - Tom Young 2003

Readings in African Politics provides an overview of key topics and themes that collectively contribute to an understanding of politics in Africa. The selections included here come from a wide range of Western and non-Western sources and together represent core knowledge in the field of African politics. Topic areas covered are methods for appraising the modern African state, approaches to understanding African states and their politics, dimensions of regional conflict, conflict between traditional and modern values, the politics of new social forces, and the meaning of contemporary trends. An introductory essay by Tom Young sketches the terrain of politics in Africa from national and international efforts toward development to local problems such as corruption and ethnic conflict. Readers at all levels will find even-handed coverage of politics in sub-Saharan Africa's more than 30 states from the early years of independence to today.

Women in Twentieth-Century Africa - Iris Berger 2016-04-26

Explores the paradoxical image of African women as exceptionally oppressed, but also as strong, resourceful and rebellious.

Death, Belief and Politics in Central African History - Kalusa, Walima T. 2013-11-11

In this set of essays Walima T. Kalusa and Megan Vaughan explore themes in the history of death in Zambia and Malawi from the late nineteenth century to the present day. Drawing on extensive archival and oral historical research they examine the impact of Christianity on spiritual beliefs, the racialised politics of death on the colonial Copperbelt, the transformation of burial practices, the histories of suicide and of maternal mortality, and the political life of the corpse.

The Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment in Africa - Toyin Falola 2013-06-07

While Africa is too often regarded as lying on the periphery of the global political arena, this is not the case. African nations have played an important historical role in world affairs. It is with this understanding that the authors in this volume set out upon researching and writing their chapters, making an important collective contribution to our understanding of modern Africa. Taken as a whole, the chapters represent the range of research in African development, and fully tie this development to the global political economy. African nations play significant roles in world politics, both as nations influenced by the ebbs and flows of the global economy and by the international political system, but also as actors, directly influencing politics and economics. It is only through an understanding of both the history and present place of Africa in global affairs that we can begin to assess the way forward for future development.

A Companion to the Anthropology of Death - Antonius C. G. M. Robben 2018-04-03

A thought-provoking examination of death, dying, and the afterlife. Prominent scholars present their most recent work about mortuary rituals, grief and mourning, genocide, cyclical processes of life and death, biomedical developments, and the materiality of human corpses in this unique and illuminating book.

Interrogating our most common practices surrounding death, the authors ask such questions as: How does the state wrest away control over the dead from bereaved relatives? Why do many mourners refuse to cut their emotional ties to the dead and nurture lasting bonds? Is death a final condition or can human remains acquire agency? The book is a refreshing reassessment of these issues and practices, a source of theoretical inspiration in the study of death. With contributions written by an international team of experts in their fields, *A Companion to the Anthropology of Death* is presented in six parts and covers such subjects as: *Governing the Dead in Guatemala*; *After Death Communications (ADCs) in North America*; *Cryonic Suspension in the Secular Age*; *Blood and Organ Donation in China*; *The Fragility of Biomedicine*; and more. *A Companion to the Anthropology of Death* is a comprehensive and accessible volume and an ideal resource for senior undergraduate and graduate students in courses such as Anthropology of Death, Medical Anthropology, Anthropology of Violence, Anthropology of the Body, and Political Anthropology. Written by leading international scholars in their fields, *A Companion to the Anthropology of Death* is a comprehensive survey of the most recent empirical research in the anthropology of death. A fundamental critique of the early 20th century founding fathers of the anthropology of death. Cross-cultural texts from tribal and industrial societies. The collection is of interest to anyone concerned with the consequences of the state and massive violence on life and death.

Once Intrepid Warriors - Dorothy Louise Hodgson 2001

Once Intrepid Warriors Gender, Ethnicity, and the Cultural Politics of Maasai Development Dorothy L. Hodgson How the experience and legacy of development have shaped Maasai identities today. "Hodgson presents us with a complex, interactive picture of change over time, one dominated neither by the Maasai nor the state and development apparatus.... The Maasai emerge not simply as the 'intrepid warriors' envisioned by government and development officials, or even sometimes by themselves, but as active agents in the construction of their own history. This history, however, is often contradictory, contested, and varied." --Jane Parpart "... the first and only book that systematically addresses Maasai culture and development from multiple perspectives of cultural identity and ethnicity, issues of land, labor, education, and, not least, changing perspectives and understanding of gender and gender relations in the society... rich both in historical detail and ethnographic substance." --Elliot M. Fratkin Drawing on archival sources as well as her extensive fieldwork in Tanzania, Dorothy L. Hodgson explores the ways identity, development, and gender have interacted to shape the Maasai into who and what they are today. By situating the Maasai in the political, economic, and social context of Tanzania and of world events, Hodgson shows how outside forces, and views of development in particular, have influenced Maasai lifeways, especially gender relations. Attitudes and assumptions of government and development officials who believed that the Maasai must maintain their pastoralist tradition determined the types of development schemes imposed. But rather than reinforce visions of the Maasai as intrepid warriors, development created new gender hierarchies, new responses to the pressures of modernity, and ambivalent attitudes toward education and local, national, and international politics. Five profiles of Maasai men and women interspersed within the text bring Maasai voices to life and show that they were never passive participants in their own history. Once Intrepid Warriors reflects the complexity and variability of Maasai society as it has responded to outside interventions and internal struggles over how to protect Maasai interests in a changing world. Dorothy L. Hodgson teaches anthropology at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, and is affiliated with the Center for African Studies and the Women's Studies Program. She is editor of *Rethinking Pastoralism in Africa: Gender, Culture and the Myth of the Patriarchal Pastoralist* and co-editor of "Wicked" Women and the Reconfiguration of Gender in Africa. July 2001 320 pages, 16 b&w photos, 4 figs., 6 1/8 x 9 1/4, index, append. cloth 0-253-33909-X \$39.95 s / £30.50

Along the Archival Grain - Ann Laura Stoler 2010-01-25 Along the Archival Grain offers a unique methodological and analytic opening to the affective registers of imperial governance and the political content of archival forms. In a series of nuanced mediations on the nature of colonial documents from the nineteenth-century Netherlands Indies, Ann Laura Stoler identifies the social epistemologies that guided perception and practice, revealing the problematic racial ontologies of that confused epistemic space. Navigating familiar and extraordinary paths through the lettered lives of those who ruled, she seizes on moments when common sense failed and prevailing categories no longer seemed to work. She asks not what colonial agents knew, but what happened when what they thought they knew they found they did not. Rejecting the notion that archival labor be approached as an extractive enterprise, Stoler sets

her sights on archival production as a consequential act of governance, as a field of force with violent effect, and not least as a vivid space to do ethnography.

Songs and Politics in Eastern Africa - Kimani Njogu 2007-10-15

Songs and Politics in Eastern Africa brings together important essays on songs and politics in the region and beyond. Through an analysis of the voices from the margins, the authors (contributors) enter into the debate on cultural productions and political change. The theme that cuts across the contributions is that songs are, in addition to their aesthetic appeal, vital tools for exploring how political and social events are shaped and understood by citizens. Urbanization, commercialization and globalization contributed to the vibrancy of East African popular music of the 1990s which was marked by hybridity, syncretism and innovativeness. It was a product of social processes inseparable from society, politics, and other critical issues of the day. The lyrics explored social cosmology, worldviews, class and gender relations, interpretations of value systems, and other political, social and cultural practices, even as they entertained and provided momentary escape for audience members. Frustration, disenchantments, and emotional fatigue resulting from corrupt and dictatorial political systems that stifle the potential of citizens drove and still drive popular music in Eastern Africa as in most of Africa. *Songs and Politics in Eastern Africa* is an important addition to the study of popular culture and its role in shaping society.

Achieng' Roseline.doc -

Working within the framework of Mahmood Mamdani's (2001) volume, *When victims become killers; colonialism, nativism and the genocide in Rwanda*, and reading this from a sociological point of view, the paper will build on the author's unfinished thesis of thinking through the possibility of a democratic despotism as one of the emancipatory projects of decolonization by interlinking the redefined syst. [...] Paradoxically, the pre-independence confrontations saw natives unified against the 2 This is with the exception of Tanzania, where the then president Julius Nyerere followed a policy of Ujamaa and the promotion of Swahili as a national language, which saw the dismantling of ethnicity as the prevalent identity marker and thus divisionary element. [...] The main agenda of the KWPC is the review of the constitution and seeing how the under representation of women and their issues can at last feature in the debates at the national assembly level. [...] The latter is what Wee (1995:10) in her writing of the position paper by DAWN on the occasion of the Fourth World Conference on Women Beijing on the gains secured by women and the move forward into the 21st century has put forward as a framework of sites of change. [...] S., and David William Cohen, 1992, *Burying SM: the politics of knowledge and the sociology of power in Africa*, Heinemann, Portsmouth-NH, London, James Currey, London, Nairobi Awasom, Yene, Susanne, 2002, *A critical survey of the resuscitation, activation and adaptation of traditional African female political institutions to the exigencies of modern politics in the 1990s: the case of Takumbeg femal.*

Burying S. M. Otieno: The Politics of Knowledge & the Sociology of Power in Africa - David William Cohen 1992

Globalisation and Legal Theory - William Twining 2000-03 The text makes the case for a revival of general jurisprudence in response to globalisation.