

My African Library: A Note
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Will: First Draft ^{More to be added}
Please do not circulate.

This library provides a wide range of resource materials on eastern Africa, on the 'other side' of the Indian Ocean from Western Australia. The holdings cover to a varying extent, the geographical region that stretches from the Horn of Africa to Mozambique: and inland from the coastline to the interior of east Africa to the Ruwenzori Mountains (the Mountains of the Moon) which provide a natural regional border for East Africa proper.

Historically the library has its origins in my own early years in East Africa from 1958 to 1975-6, when I taught and researched at Makerere University Kampala, Nairobi University, Nairobi and The University of Zambia, in Lusaka. I taught African history and politics primarily from the colonial period: the colonial and nationalist struggle of east African peoples and in due course the politics of the newly independent states of east Africa. Throughout those years I bought books, collected government publications, newspapers and journals and what I term as 'ephemera' and carried out research mainly into contemporary politics. This included on visits to other parts of eastern and central Africa and if and when I was on leave in Britain and/or Australia.

When I returned to Australia to Flinders University in Adelaide my teaching and research responsibilities enabled me to continue in this mode. In long university vacations I returned to east Africa and continued my research interests in east Africa. I continued to buy books and other source material. (Those incidentally were the days when second hand bookshops in Australia as well as Britain were well worth visiting in search of 'Africana'.)

The changing circumstances (not only political and ^{increasingly} especially with respect to the environment) in Africa through the 1970s and 1980s and indeed into the twenty-first century have all nevertheless demanded new thinking and new work from those of us who claim to be scholars of Africa; and so my own research interests have ^{expanded} developed into new areas. Military coups and the introduction of the one party state in the 1970s into the 1980s; climate change and the resulting drought and famine that began in West Africa and extended across to the Sudan in the 1970s; the growing problems of fraud; population growth and the growing internal social and economic differentiation within African societies; all these have been major forces of change in Africa that have demanded and stimulated new research and have in turn moved our teaching into those areas. One of the most exciting courses that I have ever taught was the interdisciplinary course on Famine at Flinders which produced a considerable and new literature, to read and to buy and research from all of us involved in the course. More recently (ie in the past few years) my

This Collection of books, (other published + unpublished sources) has many ways grown - not necessarily like Topsy

I have set out deliberately to "build"

growing interest in the historic migrations into the east African region prior have resulted in another, quite separate expansion of my research interests, although this has been into published sources rather into my own primary research. This has, again, produced a lot of new historical material concerned with the historic migrations into eastern Africa and the making of east African states which means the addition of new sources prior to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

This pressure to confront and explore has meant that through the years my library has also continued to expand; and to reflect the wide and changing range of scholarly and also popular/populist literature in Africa studies. I regard the library in this sense as being still 'alive'. I continue to buy books and other published material as well as to carry out research in eastern Africa when possible.

Library Contents.

Although the primary focus is on the three independent states of East Africa (that is Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania) there is substantial material also on Congo, Sudan, and the Horn of Africa. *and Rwanda, also late (imperialism) West Africa (mainly Nigeria)*

A broad identification of the present subject contents is most easily provided by the Contents pages of *Uganda: An Annotated Bibliography of Source Materials* which was published in 1991, and which reflects (although not entirely) my own holdings for the period 1971-1988. Since then the holdings have further expanded with the inclusion of major studies and monographs published since that date.

The contents of the Library as a whole divide into published and unpublished material.

Published sources

- i) books (a rough estimate is around 4,000) and other secondary sources published in East Africa as well as Britain, U.S.A. and Australia
- ii) Government publications, Uganda, Kenya, (both Ugandan and Kenyan colonial publications virtually complete sets. Tanzania, not quite complete; Zambia, not quite complete; Sudan, Nigeria, Eritrea. (erratic)
- iii) British Government, Commissions etc on East Africa, Uganda, Tanganyika, Zambia.
- iv) East African High Commission documentation
- v) Census Reports and related material for all three east African colonies. Continuing into the independent state/s.
- iv) all Australian Government publications relating to Australian relations with Africa from the 1950s
- v) pamphlets, a wide range, mainly but not only from Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. Lots of ephemera here! All probably bought on the streets of Kampala. Nairobi. Dar es Salaam!
- vi) Political party material for Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia.
- vi) International Organizations eg FAO, WHO, IBRD, World Bank,

vii) Articles and conference papers including full sets of annual East African African Studies conferences

viii) East African newspapers. A vast collection, some long runs, others much shorter. Mostly Uganda and Kenya.

ix) Local Government documentation, for Uganda, Kenya, and (more erratically) Tanzania.

x) Parliamentary Papers, especially for Uganda and Kenya. 1958 onwards.

xi) Nongovernment Agencies varied materials esp Amnesty International

Journals, Newspapers, Weeklies and Periodicals.etc

*+London Review
of Books*

While I subscribe to very few journals the library includes a small but in my own judgement valuable collection of local (ie African) newspapers, journals and periodicals and weeklies, that go back to the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s.

The most valuable in relation to research are

i) The Weekly Review. Full run from May 1975 to April 1995 when publication ceased. (Published in Nairobi, circulated across east Africa)

ii) Munno (in Uganda, published by Democratic Party. Still published.)

iii) Mawazo Journal of the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences at Makerere University. My issues complete almost to the present.

iv) Uganda Journal (Kampala). A small and intermittent run but a useful one.

v) African Affairs

I also hold

vi) New African. 1995

vii) a very large collection of photocopies of journal articles.

Unpublished material: research records.

This includes all my own field notes of research up to the late 1980s. Also my correspondence.

Location of Library

24 Glebe Road

Darlington

W.A. 6070.

Darlington is in the hills behind Perth in Western Australia, off the main road from Perth to the Eastern States: a pleasant locality (the local government designation). Not yet quite a suburb but increasing in population with its own history: for instance the remains of an old convict depot at the turn off of the main road reflect W.A's convict period and the building of the Great Eastern Highway. Glebe Road is a cul de sac of nine houses on large blocks. A pleasant environment. The Nyanya creek flows through the bush behind and through my neighbours' blocks opposite. At present, after rain, it is a fast-running 'torrent'. We sit on the rocks above the falls and watch! In the summer on the other hand the creek is as dry as an old bone and the

bush is tinder dry. There is a public swimming pool at the corner of the main road which is well patronised through the hot weather. The most important people are the Volunteer Firefighters There is a bus from the end of our road to Midland (a 20-25 minute ride) and a train from Midland station into Perth Railway Station (every fifteen minutes. a 25 minute journey) which continues on to Fremantle.

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Also have to take up question of Africa's relevance to Australia! NB history shows that Australian attitudes change & especially if we focus on the Indian Ocean region.

Also include note on ARAS.
East African
on present Foreign Ministers visits, initiated
by Stephen Smith - + the Scholarships
scheme -

The Curtin Connection/
Gerbil Collection
British Institute.

an African
Connection

House/Home

Scholarly Access/Support

An annual income
for maintenance, book purchases,
etc, etc.

A small collection of Atlases.
and of ~~the~~ basic works on style
manuals, etc
and of annual State of the World