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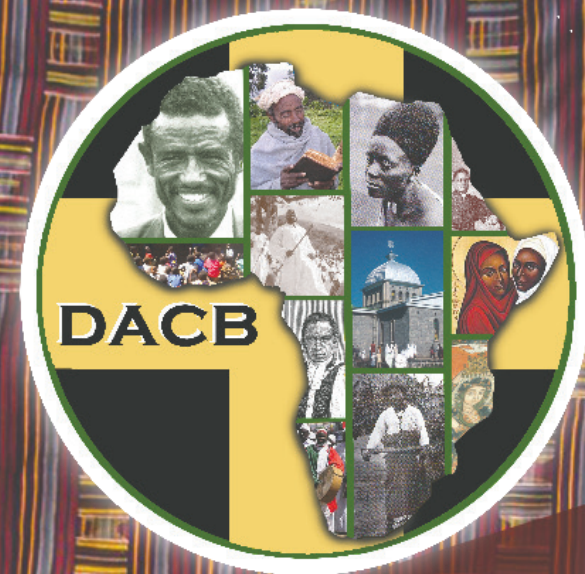
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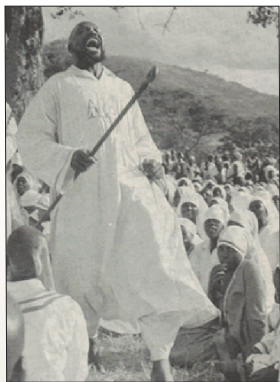
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MISSION

To document, collect, preserve, and make freely accessible biographical accounts and church histories – from oral and written sources – integral to a scholarly understanding of African Christianity

INTRODUCING THE DACB

An Online Resource. The *Dictionary of African Christian Biography* (DACB.org) documents the life stories of the men and women who laid the foundations, shaped the character, and advanced the growth of Christianity in Africa and the diaspora. The project grew out of the realization that, despite the explosive growth of African Christianity in the 20th century, information on these essential figures is lacking in standard historical and biographical reference works. The DACB seeks to fill this gap by creating a **globally**



accessible digital resource.

Beginnings. The DACB began in 1995. From 2000 to 2012, it grew steadily thanks to the logistical and financial support of its first U.S. home base at the **Overseas Ministries Study Center** (New Haven, CT). In 2012, the project moved to the **Center for Global Christianity and Mission** at Boston University School of Theology which presently provides technical and administrative support.

Scope. The DACB documents all Christian traditions, across all of Africa, from the earliest period of the Christian movement to the present. Research draws on oral and written sources. Contributors from Africa and beyond include both scholars and lay people. Linguistically, articles in English predominate (2,149), followed by French (501), then Portuguese (172), and Swahili (7) [statistics from March 2019].

WEBSITE: FAST AND PORTABLE

The DACB website (DACB.org) first went online in 1998. In 2017, the site underwent a complete redesign to create a more user-friendly experience. Conceived with Africa as the primary audience, the site is designed to **load easily** and uses **adaptive technology** for viewing on mobile devices. The entire website is available on **USB drive** for institutions without Internet access.

Site Statistics. In 2018, the website received almost 120,000 visitors. Countries with the most visitors included Nigeria, the U.S., Kenya, the U.K., Ghana, France, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Photograph courtesy of Dr. Martinus Daneel

HOW DOES DACB OPERATE?

The DACB consists of two complementary entities: (a) The **DACB operational center** at Boston University and (b) **African collaborating institutions** (research centers, university departments, seminaries, and graduate schools) committed to documenting African Christianity in its many expressions, from local lay leaders to internationally renowned figures.

An International Collaboration. African Institutions collaborate with the DACB in producing and disseminating content. They host practical training sessions in oral history to encourage the writing of biographies and local histories. The DACB publishes the articles that meet submission standards and gives full attribution to the author and institution of origin. All DACB articles are freely available for publication as monographs, articles, or chapters in books.



The **Associate Director** maintains the editorial standard for entries prepared for inclusion in the *Dictionary of African Christian Biography*.

LEADERSHIP

The Executive Committee oversees the day-to-day operations of the DACB, liaising with the Africa Advisory Council, and advising collaborating institutions across Africa.

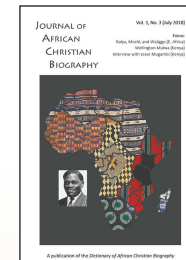
The Africa Advisory Council participates in decisions on DACB-related processes, content, promotion, publication, and dissemination. Members serve a maximum of three consecutive three-year terms.

The editorial office in Boston works closely with **affiliated institutions and individuals**.

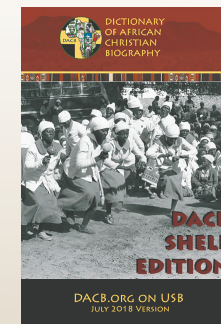
RESOURCES

Journal of African Christian Biography

The **JACB** is a quarterly online publication of the DACB. It showcases, interprets, and makes more readily accessible the biographical and historical resources of the DACB. These resources are intended for use in the classroom and in the church to foster a deeper understanding of African Christianity at a local, regional, national, and continental level.



The Newsletter informs friends, collaborators, and supporters of ongoing developments.



The DACB Shelf Edition (DSE) was conceived as a means to promote and distribute the full contents of the DACB to institutions in areas where Internet access is limited or inexistent. The box contains introductory materials, one issue of the Journal, and a USB drive loaded with the entire website that includes a basic search function.

Online Resources for Theological Education

The DACB site provides downloadable resources and curriculum for use in theological training centers across Africa.

FUNDING

Who supports the DACB? The DACB is primarily funded by private donations and grants. As the U.S. headquarters of the DACB, Boston University provides office space as well as logistical and administrative support. The primary costs of the project include:

- Operational expenses (staff salary)
- Printing (journal, promotions, instructional materials)
- Shipping (to Africa and inside Africa)
- DACB Shelf Edition: printed materials and USB drives
- Travel subsidies: promotion, executive and advisory council meetings.

To make a targeted donation to any of these needs, see instructions on reverse.