



We Only Come Here to Struggle": Stories from Berida's Life

By Berida Ndambuki, Claire Robertson

Indiana University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, "We Only Come Here to Struggle": Stories from Berida's Life, Berida Ndambuki, Claire Robertson, "We Only Come Here to Struggle" is the story of Berida Ndambuki. In her own voice, she relates her personal history, presenting herself as neither an uncontested victim, an unblemished survivor, nor a triumphantly empowered victor. Her story demonstrates the fallacy of the traditional/modern model so often applied to Africa, and her knowledge reaches from her grandmother's experiences in the early twentieth century, through British colonialism (especially the 1950s Emergency/Mau Mau rebellion), Kenyan independence, and contemporary struggles, both political and economic. The massive changes that enveloped Kenya impacted the lives of Berida and her family members in many ways, not least in her constant struggle for survival when faced with supporting sixteen children with minimal help from her husband and generous though episodic support from her brothers. With no formal education and only farming skills, Berida set out to dig her family out of poverty she was largely successful in doing so through her trade in dried staples and other commodities. Faced with incorporation into a disadvantageous world economy, Berida has grappled with life-threatening disease, the death of children,...



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