## Recent Books from Malawi - July 2021

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## **Education**

Curriculum Reform : Initial Primary School Teachers' Experiences with Outcome Based Education in Malawi / Wezzie Chiziwa Mzuzu: Livingstonia Press, 2020 102p.; 210x148mm. Includes Bibliography 978996098901 Livingstonia Book No. 1 \$ 30.00 / PB 150gm.

Countries worldwide are engaged in education reforms in trying to respond to certain issues ranging from socioeconomic to political and technological changes. Many countries around the world thus engage in various education reforms to deal with such challenges. Current curricular thoughts contend that the previous education did not prepare the learners with adequate knowledge and skills to deal with the everyday challenges and to enhance lifelong learning. In order to address the shortfalls of the previous curriculum, there has been a paradigm shift in the way education systems operate.

Worldwide, countries are embracing the learner centred approach to the teaching and learning process as opposed to the traditional teacher centred approach. Another popular reform is Outcome Based Education (OBE). Malawi embraced OBE in its education system beginning with primary school

followed by secondary school in 2001 and 2015 respectively. This book highlights early experiences of primary school teachers in the implementation of OBE. It brings to light the challenges and opportunities associated with the reform in the early stages of implementation.

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## **Religion - Christianity**

Witchcraft Accusations and Church Discipline in Malawi / Timothy Kabulunga Nyasulu Zomba: Kachere Series, 2021 iv, 56p.; 210x148mm. Includes Bibliography 9789996025419 Kachere Books No. 81 \$ 20.00 / PB 95gm.

For a long time, the church in Malawi has not taken an active role to address issues of witchcraft accusations. The failure among other things is possibly based on the influence of the early missionaries' teaching that "witchcraft does not exist" Thus, since the missionary era, the church in Malawi has been in denial, holding to the ideology that witchcraft was only superstition. However, as this study outlined the practice is still rampant in Malawi. Christians found to have consulted a diviner are subject to discipline (a suspension from partaking of the Holy Communion for some time), or in some cases severely punished, some are even persecuted and killed. The study found that very little pastoral work is undertaken to better understand the practice and find a better solution to the problem in the church.

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