

## Recent Books from Malawi – Jan 2022

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### **Linguistics**

Wisdom of the Tumbuka People = Vinjeru vya Wanthu wa Citumbuka /  
William Mumba  
Mzuzu: Luviri Press, 2022  
488p. ; 210x148mm.  
Includes Annotated Bibliography  
9789996066641  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
376gm.

Proverbs in Africa are capsules of the wisdom of the people. Luviri Press is happy to present another collection of such proverbs this time focussing on the Tumbuka people who live in Northern Malawi and Eastern Zambia. The people of Central Africa are a mixed people with mixed cultures due to a mixed history. Citumbuka, the language as it is known today, is a result of a complex process of interactions of the different languages of ethnic groups knitted together by historical events. A study of the Tumbuka proverbs and expressions reveal this cultural interaction.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=789127>

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### **Politics**

Beyond Impunity : New Directions for Governance in Malawi / (Eds) Kenneth R. Ross, Asiyati Lorraine Chiweza & Wapulumuka O. Mulwafu  
Mzuzu: Mzuni Press, 2022  
400p.  
Includes Index ; Bibliography  
9789996076077  
\$ 50.00 / PB

702gm.

Including a foreword by Paul Zeleza, this comprehensive, compelling, accessible and timely volume should be compulsory reading to academics, policy makers, social activists, and the general public in Malawi and elsewhere on the continent. The accounts the authors present of the pervasive dysfunctions of Malawi's troubled experiment with multiparty democracy since the mid-1990s, and the endlessly deferred dreams of development, are often dispiriting. Yet, their bleak diagnoses are often accompanied by ameliorative prescriptions that are simultaneously bold and pragmatic. The book exudes a sense of hope that the struggles for a better future will continue. In itself the book represents a testament to the possibilities of the country's democratic dispensation, the need to unflinchingly confront the country's debilitating political and socioeconomic pathologies. Such a text would have been unthinkable during the dictatorship of the founding president, Dr. Hastings Kamuzu Banda.

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## **Religion – Islam**

Introduction to Islam for Malawi / David S. Bone

Mzuzu: Mzuni Press, 2021

174p. ; 210 x 148mm

9789996060908

\$ 30.00/ PB

250gm.

In Malawi, where Islam arrived before Christianity, a substantial minority of the population are Muslims and, in some areas, they form the majority. Many people in one major ethnic group, the Yao, have an especially close association with the religion. In cities and many areas of the country the distinctive presence of Islam can be seen in the form of mosques, ways of dressing, customs and festivals. Muslims have provided Malawi with a State President and Vice-President, Cabinet Ministers and Ambassadors, as well as leading figures in commerce, the professions and the security services.

This book aims to contribute to knowledge and understanding in three main ways and falls into three sections. First and foremost, it offers a concise introduction to the foundations on which the religion of Islam is based. It then goes on to describe the expansion and development of the Islamic Community

and account for some of the sources of the rich diversity that is found among Muslims. Some of this diversity comes from the very different cultures in which Islam has found a place, and some of it comes also from different interpretations of the foundations of the religion itself. The book concludes with an outline of how Islam has come to Africa, and to Malawi in particular, and how it has found expression in the lives of Muslims there.

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