

Recent Books from Zimbabwe – June 2013

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History

Colonialism and Violence in Zimbabwe: A History of Suffering / Heike I. Schmidt

Harare, Zimbabwe : Weaver Press, 2013

303p.;

ISBN 9781847010513

\$ 60.00

Suffering, the experience of violation brought on by an act of violence or violent circumstances, is omnipresent in today's world - if only indirectly through global media representation. Despite this apparent immediacy, understanding how a person makes sense of his or her suffering tends to be fragmentary and often elusive. This book examines this key question through the lens of rural Zimbabwe and a frontier area on the border with Mozambique. It shows how African women, men, and children fashioned their life-worlds in the face of conflict. Historian Heike Schmidt challenges the apparently inseparable twin pairing of Africa and suffering. Even in situations of great distress, she argues, individuals and groups may articulate their social desires and political ambitions, and reforge their identities - as long as the experience of violence is not one of sheer terror. She emphasizes the crucial role women, chiefs, and youths played in the renegotiation of a sense of belonging during different periods of time. Based on sustained fieldwork, *Colonialism and Violence* offers a compelling history of suffering in a small valley in Zimbabwe over the course of 150 years. Heike Schmidt is a Research Associate at the African Studies Centre, University of Oxford.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153395>

SheMurenga: The Zimbabwean Women's Movement 1995-2000 /

Shereen Essof

Harare, Zimbabwe : Weaver Press, 2013

112p.;

ISBN 9781779222145

\$ 30.00

This book demonstrates the place of women's movements during a defining period of contemporary Zimbabwe. The government of Robert Mugabe may have been as firmly in power in 2000 as it was in 1995, but the intervening years saw severe economic crisis, mass strikes and protests, the start of land occupations, intervention in the war in the DRC, and the rise of the opposition Movement for Democratic Change. Shereen Essof shows how Zimbabwean women crafted responses to these and other events, and aimed for a feminist agenda that would prioritise the interests of the rural and urban poor. Rejecting both the strictures of patriarchy and the orthodoxies of established feminism, she demands that Zimbabwe's women be heard in their own voices and in their own contexts. In doing so she writes a book that combines scholarly integrity with a wild, joyous cry for liberation.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153380>

Writing Revolt: An Engagement with African Nationalism, 1957-67 /

Terence Ranger

Harare, Zimbabwe : Weaver Press, 2013

218p.;

ISBN 9781779222152

\$ 30.00

'I did not set out for Rhodesia as a radical' writes Terence Ranger. This memoir of the years between 1957, when he first went to Southern Rhodesia, and 1967 when he published his first book, is both an intimate record of the African awakening which Ranger witnessed during those ten years, and of the process which led him to write Revolt in Southern Rhodesia. Intended as both history and as historiography, Writing Revolt is also about the ways in which politics and history interacted. The men with whom Ranger discussed Zimbabwean history were the leaders of African nationalism; his seminar papers were sent to prisons and into restricted areas. Both they and he were making political as well as intellectual discoveries. The book also includes a brief account of

Ranger's life before he went to Africa.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153376>

Law

The Final Draft Constitution of the Zimbabwe
Harare, Zimbabwe : Constitution Select Committee, 2013
172p.;
\$ 30.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153418>

The Zimbabwe Law Reports 2010 Part 1
Harare, Zimbabwe : Legal Resources Foundation, 2012
ISSN : 2220-5470
\$ 150

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153349>

The Zimbabwe Law Reports 2010 Part 2
Harare, Zimbabwe : Legal Resources Foundation, 2012
ISSN : 2220-5470
\$ 150

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153346>

Literature

Zimbabwe Literature in African Languages: Crossing Language
Boundaries / Emmanuel M. Chiwome and Zifikile Mguni
Gweru, Zimbabwe : Booklove Publishers, 2012
332p.;
ISBN 9780797447325
\$ 45.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=150152>

Running with Mother / Christopher Mlalazi
Harare, Zimbabwe : Weaver Press, 2012
148p.;
ISBN 9781779221872
\$ 25.00

Unsentimental and unselfpitying, this short but powerful novel by Chris Mlalazi vivifies an account by Rudo, a fourteen-year-old school girl who

observes the terrifying events that take place in her village. Running with Mother provides us with a gripping story of how Rudo, her mother, her aunt and her little cousin survive the onslaught. Shocking as the story that unfolds may be, it is balanced by the resilience, self-respect, unselfishness and stoicism of the protagonists. Mlalazi's novel is written with insight, humour and provides a salutary reminder that even in the worst of times, we can find humanity.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153386>

Reading Marechera / Grant Hamilton

Harare, Zimbabwe : Weaver Press, 2012

\$ 34.95

Considered one of Africa's most innovative and subversive writers, the Zimbabwean novelist, poet, playwright and essayist Dambudzo Marechera is read today as a significant voice in contemporary world literature. Marechera wrote ceaselessly against the status quo, against unqualified ideas, against expectation. He was an intellectual outsider who found comfort only in the company of other free-thinking writers - Shelley, Bakhtin, Apuleius, Fanon, Dostoyevsky, Tutuola. It is this universe of literary thought that one can see written into the fiction of Marechera that this collection of essays sets out to interrogate. In this important and timely contribution to African literary studies, Grant Hamilton has gathered together essays of world-renowned, established, and young academics from Africa, Europe, Asia and Australia in order to discuss the important literary and philosophical influences that course through Marechera's prose, poetry and drama. From classical allusion to the political philosophy of anarchism, this collection of new research on Marechera's work makes clear the extraordinary breadth and quality of thought that Marechera brought to his writing. Grant Hamilton is Assistant Professor of English Literature at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is the author of *On Representation: Deleuze and Coetzee on the Colonized Subject* (Rodopi, 2011), as well as a number of articles on contemporary African, postcolonial, and world literatures. He is currently working on his second book, *Deleuze and African Literature*.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153383>

Politics

In the Shadow of a Conflict: Crisis in Zimbabwe and its effects in Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia / Bill Derman, Randi Kaarhus
Harare, Zimbabwe : Weaver Press, 2013
364p.;
ISBN 9781779222176
\$ 40.00

Zimbabwe has cast a powerful regional and international shadow since it became independent in 1980 and more recently, through the crises of the first decade of the twenty-first century. The 2000s were a decade of combined political, economic and social crises in Zimbabwe following what had been a relatively successful twenty years of independence since 1980. The scale, depth and severity of the crises evolving since 2000 have been as dramatic as they have been unexpected. While there has been substantial coverage of the internal consequences of Zimbabwe's crises less attention has been paid to its regional and cross-border consequences. In explaining the ongoing processes stemming from the crises, this book looks at three neighboring countries - Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia - to depict how, over time, they have experienced and interpreted events in Zimbabwe, how they have dealt with Zimbabweans entering their territories, and how they have or have not formulated policies and developed practices to cope with the arrival of new and mainly undocumented Zimbabwean immigrants.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153408>

The Hard Road to Reform: The Politics of Zimbabwe's Global Political Agreement / Brian Raftopoulos
Harare, Zimbabwe : Weaver Press, 2013
282p.;
ISBN 9781779222169
\$ 45.00

The defeat of ZANU-PF in the 2008 parliamentary election marked the end of one-party rule in Zimbabwe. The Global Political Agreement signed later that resulted in a Government of National Unity, and the former ruling party was, for the first time, faced with the reality of sharing power. The Hard Road to Reform presents a penetrating analysis of developments since the GNU was established, reviewing recent

political history from a range of perspectives - political, economic, social and historical, and featuring the best work of Zimbabwe's young scholars. As Brian Raftopolos writes in his introduction: 'the book is an attempt to analyse and assess both the hopes and frustrations of the last four years and to confront the harsh challenges that lie ahead.'

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153390>

Zimbabwe's Fast Track Land Reform / Prosper B. Matondi
Harare, Zimbabwe : Weaver Press, 2013

304p.;

\$ 50.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=153367>
