

## Recent Books from Africa – Feb 2019

**Mary Martin Booksellers Pte Ltd**  
Blk 231, Bain Street  
#03-05, Bras Basah Complex  
Singapore 180231  
Tel : +65-6883-2284/6883-2204  
Fax : +65-6883-2144  
[info@marymartin.com](mailto:info@marymartin.com)  
[www.marymartin.com](http://www.marymartin.com)

### **Economics/Development Studies**

The Future of Mining in South Africa : Sunset or Sunrise? / Salimah Valiani  
Johannesburg: Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA), 2018  
xviii, 408p. ; 234 x 156 mm. ; Ill. Colour Photography  
Includes Index  
9780639923826  
\$ 60.00 / PB  
654gm.

The future of mining in South Africa is hotly contested. Wide-ranging views from multiple quarters rarely seem to intersect, placing emphasis on different questions without engaging in holistic debate. This book aims to catalyse change by gathering together fragmented views into unifying conversations. It highlights the importance of debating the future of mining in South Africa and for reaching consensus in other countries across the mineral-dependent globe. It covers issues such as the potential of platinum to spur industrialisation, land and dispossession on the platinum belt, the roles of the state and capital in mineral development, mining in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the experiences of women in and affected by mining since the late 19th century and mine worker organising: history and lessons and how post-mine rehabilitation can be tackled. It was inspired not only by an appreciation of South Africa's extensive mineral endowments, but also by a realisation that, while the South African mining industry performs relatively well on many technical indicators, its management of broader social issues leaves much to be desired. It needs to be deliberated whether the mining industry can play

as critical a role going forward as it did in the evolution of the country's economy.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502042>

---

Community Resilience under the Impact of Urbanisation and Climate Change: Cases and Experiences Zimbabwe / (Ed) Innocent Chirisa & Christopher Mabeza

Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2019

x, 242p. ; 229 x 152mm.

99956550051 ; 9789956550050

\$ 35.00 / PB

374gm.

As the world today faces messy problems, what in some circles has been called global weirding, the term resilience has taken centre stage. This is crunch time –as we grapple with the negative effects of both climate change and urbanisation. Some commentators have compared the huge problems we face today to Oom Schalk's proverbial leopard waiting for us in the withaak's shade. Do we endlessly count Oom Schalk's proverbial leopard's spots? This is the question posed by a stellar cast of academics, researchers, and experts whose contributions in this text is a rallying cry for action to build resilience to the challenging impact of urbanisation and climate change. To that end, this volume gives hope about the potential for human agency. Our challenge however, is to re-examine our values, to change our conservation conversation and return to a more wise and holistic understanding of ourselves and our place in the Universe. Perhaps, then only can the obituaries on our demise stay locked in the drawer.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502044>

---

Beyond Imagination : The Ethics and Applications of Nanotechnology and Bio-Economics in South Africa / (Ed) Zamanzima Mazibuko (Ed-in-Chief) Joel Netshitenzhe

Johannesburg: Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA), 2018

xxv, 256p. ; 234 x 156 mm. ; B/W Illustration

Includes Index

9780639923802

\$ 40.00 / PB

428gm.

Nanotechnology is sweeping the world. This science of very small particles, which includes genetic modification and the reconfiguring of the arrangement of atoms, presents possibilities beyond imagination. It also has huge implications for all South Africans, especially at home. How exactly is this new technology playing out in South Africa? In countries like India, nanotechnology is being supported as a source of income and innovation. It has the potential to improve both the human condition and a country's productivity and competitiveness.

Is South Africa doing what it should and could to foster nanotechnology and biotechnology, and to advance bio economies within the country? And what does the new technology mean for us as consumers? How many of us know that this technology is already being employed in substances like suntan cream and lipstick, with potential health implications for users?

The application of nanotechnology poses risks as well as huge benefits, so we need to be particularly vigilant of the ethics and dangers of it. This book provokes discussion around these important topics and relays eye-opening information to those of us who thought all of this was sci-fi.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502045>

---

## **Education**

Higher Education Pathways : South African Undergraduate Education and the Public Good / (Ed) Paul Ashwin & Jennifer Case

Cape Town: African Minds, 2018

x, 310p. ; 254x178mm.

Includes Index

9781928331902

African Higher Education Dynamics Series Volume 4

\$ 45.00 / PB

620gm.

In what ways does access to undergraduate education have a transformative impact on people and societies? What conditions are required for this impact to occur? What are the pathways from an undergraduate education to the public good, including inclusive economic development?

These questions have particular resonance in the South African higher education context, which is attempting to tackle the challenges of widening access and improving completion rates in a system in which the segregations of the apartheid years are still apparent. Higher education is recognised in core legislation as having a distinctive and crucial role in building post-apartheid society. Undergraduate education is seen as central to addressing skills shortages in South Africa. It is also seen to yield significant social returns, including a consistent positive impact on societal institutions and the development of a range of capabilities that have public, as well as private, benefits.

This book offers comprehensive contemporary evidence that allows for a fresh engagement with these pressing issues.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502046>

---

## **History**

Carl Hugo and Mary Gutsche and the "German" Baptists of the Eastern Cape / Fritz H. Haus

Mzuzu, Malawi : Luviri Press, 2019

318p. ; 210 x 148 mm.

9789996060281

\$ 34.00 / PB

414gm.

In 1859 the British "imported" 445 German settler families to strengthen the colonial borders in British Kaffraria (now Eastern Cape) in South Africa. Three of these settler families were Baptists, they evangelized their fellow Germans and anyone else they met. In 1867 Johann Gerhard Oncken of Hamburg, the founder of the Baptist Churches in Continental Europe, sent Hugo Gutsche to take care of the new Baptist community there and evangelize the native population. The author of this book, Fritz Haus, the last of Gutsche's German successors, wrote his PhD on the life and work of Hugo Gutsche, graduating from the University of Stellenbosch at the age of 80. Haus describes his ministry to White and Black over half a century and he does not forget Mrs Mary Gutsche, whom her husband called his "co-pastor."

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502048>

---

Crossing the Line in Africa : Reconsidering and Unlimiting the Limits of Borders within a Contemporary Value / (Ed) Canute Ambe Ngwa & Mark Bolak Funteh

Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2019

xxii, 482p. ; 229 x 152mm.

Includes Bibliographical references

9789956550890

\$ 47.00 / PB

730gm.

This book explores a collective understanding of the perception and treatment of borders in Africa. The notion of boundary is universal as boundaries are also an important part of human social organization. Through the ages, boundaries have remained the 'container' by which national space is delineated and 'contained'. For as long as there has been human society based on territoriality and space, there have been boundaries. With their dual character of exclusivism and inclusivism, states have proven to adopt a more structural approach to the respect of the former in consciousness of the esteem of international law governing sovereignty and territorial integrity. However, frontier peoples and their realities have often opted for the latter situation, imposing a more functionalist perception of these imaginary lines and prompting a border opinion shift to a more blurring form of representation and meaning in most African communities.

This collective multidisciplinary effort of understanding how tangible and intangible borders have influenced Africa's attitude and existence for ages is worthy in its own rights. The difference between what borders are and what they are not to a people is the mere product of their own estimations and practices, a disposition that leads the contributors to this book to study borders beyond states or nations and how borders are crossed or transferred from one point to the other for the convenience of their histories and being.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502049>

---

## **Literature**

Ancestors and Other Visitors : Selected Poetry & Drawings / D. E. Stevenson

Windhoek, Namibia : University of Namibia Press, 2018

96p. ; 229 x 152mm.

9789991642444

\$ 20.00 / PB

196gm.

Pursued through poetic pastures of faith, love, and time by an Omuhimba muse who alternately challenges and enchants him, D. Stevenson presents *Ancestors and Other Visitors*, a poetry anthology that is as sweepingly existential as it is personal and as sagely simple as it is complex.

An immigrant, artist and spoken wordsmith observing the world through a traveler soul, Stevenson journeys through time and literary style to pay homage to influence such as e.e. cummings, W.B. Yeats and Robert Hayden in a wonderfully intimate selection of poems.

Set primarily in Windhoek, Namibia, Stevenson's home of 37 years, *Ancestors* is at once a musing on self, surroundings and the local artists who inflame his imagination: a young Namibian painter, a dance troupe that inspired 'Arc magnificent' and 'Unseen', with original ballet, and the assorted upcoming poets who feeds his passion and whose stage he shares. Offering up exposition as well as desperate, imagined and curious conversations. *Ancestors* is a welcome and unprecedented addition to the Namibian poetry landscape.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502051>

---

So At One With You: An Anthology of Modern Poetry in Somali = Bulshoy  
Ma Is Baran Lahayn : Ururin Maansooyin Soomaal Ah Oo Waayahan  
Tisqaaday/ (Ed) W.N. Herbert & Said Jama Hussein  
Hargeysa: Ponte Invisible (Redsea Cultural Foundation), 2018  
214p.  
9788888934631  
Somaliland-English Dual Language Edition  
\$ 20.00 / PB  
250gm.

*So At One With You* is a groundbreaking anthology of the last fifty years of Somali poetry, and marks ten years of collaboration between Kayd Somali Arts and Culture and the Poetry Translation Centre. The anthology celebrates the primary medium for public debate in this 'nation of poets', where audiences in their hundreds gather to listen to an intricate, virtuosic art form that speaks directly to them about the great issues of their time.

As the title – taken from the work of Maxamed Ibraahin Warsame “Hadraawi” – suggests, in Somali literature the poet is utterly at one with their listener sharing values and aesthetics in an intimate manner that offers food for thought to English-speaking writers, readers, and critics. The present selection brings together eighteen key poets from across the generations, and combines tender love poetry and pastoral idyll with scathing attacks on corruption and hypocrisy, as well as social satire on life in the cities of the Horn of Africa and across the globe. This is a world poetry, both in its imaginative reach and in its ability to speak to the debates we all face in a time of global crisis.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502052>

---



Beleko / Jacqueline Gondwe  
Mzuzu: Luviri Press, 2018  
336p. ; 229 x 152mm.  
In Afrikaans  
9789996066207  
\$ 35.00 / PB  
518gm.

Béléko is een klein plattelandsdorp in het West-Afrikaanse land Mali. In de vijfentwintig op zichzelf staande hoofdstukken ontmoeten we Nederlandse ontwikkelingssamenwerkers, Franse missionarissen en Malinese ambtenaren, gezondheidswerkers, landbouwers, dorpsvrouwen en hun kinderen. Allen proberen op hun eigen manier zin te geven aan hun leven terwijl hun paden elkaar kruisen in het dagelijkse Afrikaanse dorpsbestaan in de eind tachtiger jaren van de twintigste eeuw. We lezen, vanuit de verschillende personages beschreven, over hun achtergronden, hun hartstochten en strijd - en hoe zij elkaar op zeer beslissende wijze beïnvloeden.

Béléko is a small village in the West African state of Mali. In the book's twenty-five chapters we meet Dutch development workers, French missionaries and Malian public service workers, health workers, farmers, village women and their children. All of these characters strive in their different ways to give meaning to their lives as their paths cross in the daily village life of Africa at the end of the 1980s. As each character tells his or her own story, we learn of their backgrounds, their passions and their struggles – and how they influence each other in decisive ways.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502053>

---

Dispatches from the Village / Christopher Munyaradzi Mabeza  
Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2019  
viii, 76p. ; 203 x 127mm.  
9789956550883  
\$ 15.00 / PB  
106gm.

In this book, Chris Mabeza takes the reader through a breath taking journey of the vicissitudes of village life in Zimbabwe from the colonial days to the present. This, at a time when telling African stories is enjoying a Risorgimento. Thus, in essence Mabeza “throws his fingers in the wind” and catches the zeitgeist of African storytelling. The stories leave the reader spellbound. Dispatches from the village has its finger on the pulse of the people. This gorgeous collection of short stories is a product of immersive thick descriptions of rural life as it intersects with urban life. The author grapples with the effects of what has generally been observed as the “brutish and nasty new normal”. The rural landscape has not been spared the vagaries of this new normal. However, when overwhelmed by the tsunami of negative news that permeate our media, pick-up *Dispatches from the village* to soothe yourself.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502054>

---

Language and the Construction of Multiple Identities in the Nigerian Novel / Romanus Aboh  
African Humanities Series  
Grahamstown: NISC (Pty) Ltd., (for African Humanities Program), 2018  
xviii, 154p. ; 244x 170mm.  
Includes Index ; Bibliography  
9781920033293  
\$ 30.00 / PB  
314gm.

*Language and the construction of multiple identities in the Nigerian novel* examines the multifaceted relation between people and the various identities they construct for themselves and for others through the context-specific ways they use language. Specifically, this book pays attention to how forms of identities – ethnic, cultural, national and gender – are constructed through the use of language in select novels of Adichie, Atta and Betiang. Employing an interdisciplinary approach, this book draws analytical insights from critical discourse analysis, literary discourse analysis and socio-ethno-linguistic analysis. This approach enables the author to engage with the novels, to illuminate the link between the ways Nigerians use language and the identities they construct. Being a context-driven analysis, this book critically scrutinises literary language beyond stylistic borders by interrogating the micro and macro levels of language use, a core analytical paradigm frequently used by discourse analysts who engage in critical discourse analysis.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502056>

---

Surviving Loss / Busisiwe Mahlangu  
Tswane: Impepho Press, 2018  
78p.  
9780639946535  
\$ 16.00 / PB  
120gm.

Poems

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502057>

---

## **Politics**

Kenya : Bridging Ethnic Divides : A Commissioner's Experience on Cohesion and Integration / Alice Wairimu Nderitu

Nairobi: Mudahalo Bridging Divides Limited, 2018

xxxii, 530p.

Includes Index

9789966190314

\$ 48.00 / PB

824gm.

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) was set up to facilitate and promote equality of opportunity, good relations, harmony and peaceful coexistence between persons of the different ethnic and racial communities of Kenya, and to advise the Government on all aspects thereof after the violence that followed the December 2007 elections.

In Kenya, *Bridging Ethnic Divides: A Commissioner's Experience on Cohesion and Integration*, Commissioner Alice Wairimũ Nderitũ looks behind the scenes at the NCIC's efforts to ensure peaceful co-existence. Such as, working with elders, mediating confidentially between political leaders at the highest levels and co-founding and working as first Co-Chair of Uwiano Platform for Peace, a conflict prevention agency largely credited with leading efforts in ensuring peaceful processes during the 2010 Constitutional referendum and 2013 General elections.

The book tells of NCIC's efforts in grappling with the seemingly intractable problem of managing the negative consequence of ethnic differences on questions such as: Why is Kenya so ethnically polarised? Why is an ethnic group the key defining factor in Kenyan politics? What hope is there for an inclusive Kenya?

The book shows that positive policies and intra- and inter-ethnic spaces can be used to counter negative influences that lead to fear, exclusion and violence. The diversity of Kenya's ethnicities and races need not be a pretext for conflict, but a source of truly national identity. It proves that dialogue on understanding differences and commonalities leads to improved relationships and understanding on societal dynamics. This in turn, contributes to preventing and transforming conflicts through appropriate inclusion policies, identifying entry points for change as well as opportunities to tackle the norms and behaviours that underpin structural disparities.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502058>

---

Politics of Human Network in African Conflicts : Kamajor/the CDF in  
Sierra Leone / Hideyuki Okano  
Bamenda: Langaa RPCIG, 2019  
xxvi, 442p. ; 229 x 152mm. ; B/W Illustrations  
Includes Index  
9789956550180  
\$ 45.00 / PB  
678gm.

Sierra Leone experienced 11 years' civil war after the incursion of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) from adjacent Liberia. The war of Sierra Leone is one of the most researched in Africa. However, the foci of studies are mostly on the RUF. Other armed groups are not sufficiently studied. This book focuses on the governmental side of the Kamajor and the Civil Defence Force (CDF). Kamajors were community-based vigilantes mobilised by paramount chiefs in various Mende communities. During the course of the war, the government organised Kamajors into a pro-governmental militia, the CDF. This book examines how human networks worked in the course of the formation of Kamajor and of the CDF. Even though the roles of human networks have been discussed in the realm of African politics, they have been left hypothetical. Few studies demonstrate the whole picture on how neopatrimonialism, patron-client relations or informal networks function within an organisation.

This book describes the course of Kamajor/CDF along with functions of the human networks. In the networks, the threads of human relations are interwoven by subsuming the local, the international and the global dimensions of the armed conflict. Some connect to governmental figures. Others have transnational networks in adjacent Liberia. In the changing situations of the war, some of the relations are maintained, while some relations are disintegrated. Those who emerge as prominent figures in the Kamajor/CDF use their own human networks to obtain resources for the Kamajor/CDF, which in turn, afford themselves higher positions in the force.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502060>

---

State of the Continent : A Mid-Century Assessment of Political  
Performance in Africa / John M. Fobanjong

Denver, CO, USA: Spears Media Press LLC, 2018

xvi, 284p.

Includes Index

9781942876342

\$ 40.00 / PB

460gm.

What precisely is the state of the African continent today? Depending on one's perspective, the answer may either dwell on Africa's recent economic and political accomplishments or focus on the long-standing single-story of failure, disaster and eternal dictatorships. This book provides a nuanced, forceful and balanced assessment of Africa's political and economic performance since independence. While acknowledging Africa's tragic pitfalls, dating to the transatlantic slave trade and colonialism, *State of the Continent* skillfully argues that theories associated with the dependency school are no longer enough to explain the continent's failures in governance and economic performance. For a continent so richly blessed and endowed with both human and material resources, the blame for Africa's lackluster performance falls squarely on its leadership. To get things right, Nkrumah's vision of the primacy of the "political kingdom" must be prioritized whereupon economic gains shall predictably, follow. In lucid and persuasive prose, this volume is an ideal book for scholars as well as students of international studies and African politics.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502061>

---

Consensus as Democracy in Africa / Bernard Matolino  
Grahamstown, South Africa : NISC (Pty) Ltd., (for African Humanities  
Program), 2018  
xii, 228p. ; 244 x 170 mm.  
Includes Index ; Bibliography  
9781920033316  
\$ 37.00 / PB  
422gm.

Some philosophers on the African continent and beyond are convinced that consensus, as a polity, represents the best chance for Africa to fully democratise. In *Consensus as Democracy in Africa*, Bernard Matolino challenges the basic assumptions built into consensus as a social and political theory. Central to his challenge to the claimed viability of consensus as a democratic system are three major questions: Is consensus genuinely superior to its majoritarian counterpart? Is consensus itself truly a democratic system? Is consensus sufficiently different from the one-party system? In taking up these issues and others closely associated with them, Matolino shows that consensus as a system of democracy encounters several challenges that make its viability highly doubtful. Matolino then attempts a combination of an understanding of an authentic mode of democracy with African reality to work out what a more desirable polity would be for the continent.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502063>

---

## **Sociology**

Social Work Practice in Africa : Indigenous and Innovative Approaches /  
(Ed) Janestic M. Twikirize Helmut Spitzer

Uganda: Fountain Publishers, 2019

xiv, 268p. ; 244 x 170 mm.

9789970617920

\$ 40.00 / PB

490gm.

The importance of integrating indigenous knowledge systems into mainstream social work and ensuring context-specific, culturally relevant practice has long been emphasised in Africa and the Global South. This book, based on empirical research, presents a selection of indigenous and innovative models and approaches of problem solving that will inspire social work practice and education. At the core of these models lies a conceptual understanding of the community as the overarching principle for effective social work and social development in African contexts. The empirical part of the book has a focus on East Africa and highlights case examples from Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, and Kenya. The book is intended for use by those involved in social work and social development practice, social work educators, students, as well as policy makers. It is relevant not just for audiences in Africa but also the global social work community, especially those interested in promoting culturally relevant social work.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502065>

---



The Next Generation of Scientists in Africa / Catherine Beaudry, Johann Mouton & Heidi Prozesky  
Cape Town: African Minds, 2018  
x, 206p. ; 254x178mm.  
9781928331933  
\$ 50.00 / PB  
548gm.

Young scientists are a powerful resource for change and sustainable development, as they drive innovation and knowledge creation. However, comparable findings on young scientists in various countries, especially in Africa and developing regions, are generally sparse. Therefore, empirical knowledge on the state of early-career scientists is critical in order to address current challenges faced by those scientists in Africa.

This book reports on the main findings of a three-and-a-half-year international project in order to assist its readers in better understanding the African research system in general, and more specifically its young scientists. The first part of the book provides background on the state of science in Africa, and bibliometric findings concerning Africa's scientific production and networks, for the period 2005 to 2015. The second part of the book combines the findings of a large-scale, quantitative survey and more than 200 qualitative interviews to provide a detailed profile of young scientists and the barriers they face in terms of five aspects of their careers: research output; funding; mobility; collaboration; and mentoring. In each case, field and gender differences are also taken into account. The last part of the book comprises conclusions and recommendations to relevant policy- and decision-makers on desirable changes to current research systems in Africa.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=502066>

---