

## Recent Books from Namibia – Dec 2022

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### Anthropology/Archaeology

Namib : The Archaeology of an African Desert / John Kinahan  
Windhoek: University of Namibia (UNAM) Press, 2020  
xxvi. 518p.  
Includes Index ; Bibliography  
9789991642659  
\$ 60.00 / PB  
564gm.

This is a story of human survival over the last one million years in the Namib Desert — one of the most hostile environments on Earth. The resilience and ingenuity of desert communities provides a vivid picture of our species' response to climate change, and ancient strategies to counter ever-present risk. Dusty fragments of stone, pottery and bone tell a history of perpetual transition, of shifting and temporary states of balance. NAMIB digs beneath the usual evidence of archaeology to uncover a world of arcane rituals, of travelling rain-makers, of intricate social networks which maintained vital systems of negotiated access to scarce resources. This is more than a work of scientific research; it is a love-song to the desert and its people.  
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839239>

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### Art

Stein Ist Stille – Beyond the Silence : Complete Works of Dorte Berner From 1963-2020 / Helge Denker (Ed) Gretha du Plessis  
Windhoek: Dorte Berner (Self-Published), 2020  
162p.  
9789991698304  
\$ 120.00 / PB  
1026gm.

Stein ist Stille – Beyond the Silence documents the creative motivation of well known Namibian sculptor Dörte Berner. Based on her life's work, Dörte Berner has published her first book Stein ist Stille – Beyond the Silence. Paging through the book, the reader will be enticed by the vast amount of detail and thought that has gone into the making of each sculpture. Divided into themes, from Humanity and Existence to Lightness and Laughter that shaped the life and work of the

artist, the journey is accompanied by short descriptions, complimentary poetry and breathtaking photography.

This book not only reveals Dörte Berners soul but introduces the artist to the reader which makes the book personal, tangible and most enjoyable to spend time with!

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839240>

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Namibia Places / Linus Malherbe  
Windhoek: Venture Publications, 2020  
148p.  
9789991695433  
\$ 75.00 / PB  
720gm.

Namibia Places is an artist's travel journal that portrays journeys, especially down memory lane, through a country renowned for its unique beauty. It features several of Namibia's most famous and iconic landmarks, supported by observations, stories and anecdotes that are mementos from my youth, and short in-depth ventures into historical research. It also contains artwork commissioned or bought by collectors, who's names are referenced throughout.

I have always believed that artists – whether they are painters, sculptors, writers or musicians – are born with a sixth sense and a natural ability to assimilate and store detail. While this sets them apart from non-artists, it also carries an emotional burden of extreme highs and intense lows, and a mindset that brooks no placidity.

The book further contains my theory pertaining to the White Lady of the Brandberg, an avocation that debunks existing hypotheses relating to this famous Namibian feature. The legendary rock painting is a topic of great interest among Namibians, ex-Namibians, tourists and rock-art connoisseurs worldwide. Current theories are being challenged by new suppositions of how the White Lady group might have had Viking ties, with reference to the thoroughbred wild desert horses of Prussia and the medieval swords of the White Lady designated as "Bushman rock art". Whatever the origin of this captivating relic of the past might be, it might well remain in perpetui simply as a memento of lost footprints.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839242>

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## Architecture

Journey With Namibian Architect Erhard Roxin : Celebrating Architectural Achievements and Embracing a Sustainable Future / Erhard Roxin (Ed) Elaine Thompson  
Swakopmund: Erhard Roxin (Self-Published), 2021  
180p.  
Includes Bibliography  
9789994552368  
\$ 75.00 / PB  
858gm.

Journey with Namibian Architect Erhard Roxin takes you on a trip of his prize-winning architecture, his town of choice, Swakopumnd, good design and how it influences our everyday lives. He also shares some insights on how architects tick.

This book not only documents and analyses exemplary architectural creations in sketches, drawings, photos and text, but also challenges a re-think of our current way of life, and promotes and ecological approach towards Namibian vernacular architecture.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839243>

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## Atlas/Maps

Atlas of Namibia : Its Land, Water and Life / Atlas of Namibia Team  
Windhoek: Namibia Nature Foundation, 2022  
x, 390p.  
9789994553464  
\$ 120.00 / HB  
1820gm.

This is the third geographical profile and atlas of Namibia. The first, the National Atlas of South West Africa (Namibia), edited by J.H. van der Merwe, was published in 1983. Nineteen years later, in 2002, a second atlas followed, the Atlas of Namibia, A portrait of the land and its people. And after another 20 years, here is the Atlas of Namibia: its land, water and life.

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"If you want to obtain a broad understanding of Namibia and what makes it tick, this new Atlas is the book for you. It is an outstanding and comprehensive compendium about the country that offers a collection of maps, charts and images that illustrate aspects of aridity to zebras in Zambezi; annual averages and long- and short-term variations; and contrasts and convergences. Fresh and interesting topics are tackled, including our historical heritage and the meaning of place names, indigenous plant products and wildlife migrations, and our happiness. Critically, attention has also been given to Namibia's marine environment, livelihoods and land, species diversity and habitat loss, resource economics and management human-wildlife conflict, and climate change, and much more." - Roy Miller, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Namibia Nature Foundation

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## Biography/Memoirs

Journey into the Unknown / Kalumbi Shangula  
Windhoek: Kuiseb Publishers, 2020  
120p.  
Includes Bibliography  
9789994576678  
\$ 30.00 / PB  
184gm.

This autobiography tells the moving and exciting story of Dr Kalumbi Shangula, Namibia's Minister of Health and Social Services. He was one of hundreds of Namibians who left Namibia through Angola from 1974 to fight and prepare for the liberation the motherland. It describes the author's political wakening in the inhuman apartheid system and his hazardous journey from Namibia through Angola to Zambia with repeated arrests and escapes. The reader learns about the hard life in exile, his military training and graduation as a medical doctor in Moscow, Russia, and his work as a dedicated physician at the Peter Nanyemba Military Hospital in Angola until 1989. Shangula also vividly recounts the repatriation of former Exiles to Namibia in 1989, the joy of returning home, but also the fear

and apprehension of the returnees, their resettlement and employment in an independent country.

"It is hoped that this book will give the reader insight into the experiences of Exiles which people have talked about many times but which have rarely been documented in writing. It is also hoped that this book will encourage other former Exiles to summon the courage and write down their own experiences." – Kalumbi Shangula

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"(This book) makes interesting reading, especially the presentation of events. I encourage everybody to read this book." – Sam Nujoma, Founding President of Namibia

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839245>

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Good Morning Namibia : The Long Way to Independence on a Namibian Farm / Erika von Wietersheim (Eds) William & Retha Louise Hofmeyr  
Windhoek: Kuiseb Publishers, 2020

328p.

9789994576685

\$ 45.00 / PB

312gm.

In this biographical narrative Erika von Wietersheim takes us back to the time between 1976 and Namibia's independence in March 1990. It is the story of a twofold emancipation: After her studies at the rather liberal University of Cape Town the young Namibian returns to her motherland to live with her husband Anton on the farm of her parents-in-law. There she is confronted with traditional apartheid structures and relationships. What can she do to change the existing situation and contribute to a more just society for the people on the farm and in the country? One answer is education. She establishes a school on the farm – initially without any outside help and against official regulations. In this way she comes into living contact with Namibian children, their parents and their culture and with time with important people of Namibia's independence movements like Hendrik Witbooi, Hage Geingob, and Anton Lubowski.

The author artfully interweaves the story of her life on the farm with political backgrounds and developments, gives us insight into the culture of the local Nama people, describes the ups and downs of everyday life on a farm and demonstrates that also among white Namibians there were serious endeavors to make Namibia a more just and self-determined society.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839246>

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## Ecology/Environmental Science

Reptiles of Namibia / Alfred Schleicher (Ed) Alexander Brewis

Windhoek: Kuiseb Publishers, 2020

272p.

Includes Index

9789994576708

\$ 50.00 / PB

636gm.

Namibia is well-known for its large biodiversity of reptiles, be it tortoises, turtles, snakes, lizards and crocodiles. On 271 pages with 480 full-colour photos, distribution maps and an index, this guide comprehensively informs about the distribution, habits and habitats, diet and breeding of Namibia's diverse reptiles as well as the threats that they are exposed to.

For venomous snakes, the author also informs about the specific types of venom and what to do in case of snake bites. Reptiles of Namibia is a translation as well as an extension of the German version Reptilien Namibias and is a must for every household and all travellers in Namibia.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839247>

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## History

Hunters among farmers : The !Xun of Ekoka / Akira Takada

Second Edition

Windhoek: University of Namibia (UNAM) Press, 2022

xxiv, 264p.

9789991642673

\$ 55.00 / PB

410gm.

Through moving life histories, Akira Takada gives the !Xun of north-central Namibia a voice in their own history.

In contrast to other marginalised San minorities, the !Xun foster cooperative relationships with their neighbours, the Ovawambo, and with the state. In the face of radical social changes over the past century, they have maintained traditional hunting and gathering as a backstop but also sold their skills and labour, acquired their own farms and livestock, and enriched their child-rearing practices in changing ecological conditions. Central to their identity and resilience are their kinship and naming practices which preserve their ethnic cohesion while promoting relationships with other groups.

Contributing to an established literature on the San, Takada's book will allow detailed regional comparison on the !Kung-speaking groups of northern Namibia. Charming sketches from his notebooks give an intimate view of the anthropologist in the field.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=826286>

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Violence As Usual : Policing and the Colonial State in German South West Africa / Marie Muschalek

Windhoek: University of Namibia (UNAM) Press, 2020

272p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9789991642550

\$ 50.00 / PB

390gm.

Slaps in the face, kicks, beatings, and other forms of run-of-the-mill violence were an everyday part of life in German South West Africa at the beginning of the twentieth century. Unearthing this culture of normalized violence in a settler colony, Violence as Usual uncovers the workings of a powerful state that was built in an improvised fashion by low-level state representatives. Marie Muschalek's fascinating portrayal of the daily deeds of African and German men enrolled in the Landespolizei, the colonial police force, is a historical anthropology of police practice and the normalization of imperial power. Replete with anecdotes of the everyday experiences of the policemen, as well as of the colonized people and settlers, Violence as Usual re-examines fundamental questions about the relationship between power and violence.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839248>

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Vamama's History and Heritage : 'Forgotten' Histories of Namibia / Shampapi Shiremo  
Book Series No. 1  
Rundu: Shampapi Shiremo (Self-Published), 2020  
xii, 172p.  
Includes Index ; Bibliography  
9789991698496  
\$ 45.00 / PB  
250gm.

Shampapi Shiremo is a passionate historian who loves researching, reading and writing on subject-matters relating to history. Inter alia, he has published on the Vagciriku-Lishora Massacre of 1894 and the Resistance of Kavango traditional leaders in 1903 against the German colonial government and its agents. He is also an author of a Rumanyo novel entitled Mfudu Urodi. This title Vamama's History and Heritage are a book series that is intended to be published at least once annually as part of the author's contribution to educate the Namibian masses on their own past and culture. It is also intended to publicize the history from the Kavango regions to a larger readership in Namibia and abroad.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839249>

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The History of Freemasonry in Namibia 1905 – 2022 / Gordon McGregor  
Revised 2nd Edition  
Windhoek: G. D. L. McGregor (Self-Published), 2022  
188p.  
9789991670027  
\$ 55.00 / PB  
344gm.

This is the revised, second edition to "The History of Freemasonry in Namibia" that was published by Gordon McGregor in 2019.  
This publication is the history of the Freemason Lodges and Chapters in the country now called Namibia. The history starts with the first recorded activity of Freemasons in the country in 1905 up to the present time. There can be no doubt that there were Freemasons travelling or residing in the country before this date but they were never active as Freemasons as such or established Lodges and thus we will never know who they were.  
The second edition contains updated information and photographs that came to hand after the publication of the first edition as well as what the impact of the COVID-19 virus was on the Lodges and Chapters and their members.  
The book is a history of the various Lodges and Chapters in the country and does NOT delve into the various rituals as practiced by Freemasons.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839250>

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Ethnologists in Camouflage : Introducing Apartheid to Namibia / Robert J Gordon  
Windhoek: University of Namibia (UNAM) Press, 2022  
xxii, 186p.  
Includes Index  
9789991642765  
1. Apartheid – Namibia.  
2. Ethnology – Political aspects – Namibia.

3. Namibia – History – 1915-1946.
4. Namibia – History – 1946-1990.
5. Namibia – Colonization.

\$ 50.00 / PB

302gm.

From the early fifties, South Africa used South West Africa/Namibia as a testing ground to promote Apartheid ideology and to devise methods of countering insurgency. In these exercises a number of experts, known as ethnologists, played an important role. Linked to the government and the military they carried out research among specific ethnic groups, describing their physical characteristics, material culture, language and beliefs. Their work was used to legitimate Bantustan policy by emphasizing unbridgeable differences between people to make a national liberation movement impossible.

Gordon presents fresh evidence on crucial questions which have gone unanswered over decades. This book undermines ivory towers and raises wider moral questions concerning the role of doubt in expertise and in debunking conspiracy theories.

I found this book highly engaging, confrontational of white conservatism and racism and justly devastating of expertise gone wrong. – C. S. van der Waal, Stellenbosch University

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839251>

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## Law

“Neither Here Nor There” : Indigeneity, Marginalisation and Land Rights in Post-Independence Namibia / (Ed) Willem Odendaal & Wolfgang Werner  
Windhoek: Land, Environment and Development Project, Legal Assistance Centre, 2020  
400p.

9789994561582

\$ 50.00 / PB

914gm.

In September 2018 the Legal Assistance Centre (LAC) received a research grant from the United States Department of State, the purpose of which was to support the LAC to develop a series of concept chapters, with a comprehensive and updated examination of the land rights of indigenous and marginalised communities in Namibia.

This grant could not have come at a more opportune moment. Firstly, 2018 marked the 21st birthday of the LAC’s Land, Environment and Development Project (LEAD). Since its inception, LEAD has supported the land and natural resource rights of Namibia’s indigenous and marginalised communities through legal advice and representation, research, advocacy, capacity building and litigation. Thus, the LAC as a public interest law firm is well placed to evaluate the current state of Namibia’s indigenous and marginalised communities’ land rights.

Secondly, the Second National Land Conference was scheduled to take place in October 2018, hence the LAC’s intention was to produce a publication that would help to maintain the momentum generated by the conference discussions. Specific resolutions were taken at the end of the conference, to which policy makers are compelled to give effect. We are hopeful that this publication will be of use to those tasked with the implementation of the 2018 Land Conference resolutions.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839252>

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## Literature

The Nightlife of Oshikango / Hermann Evenson

Namibia: Damaralandbooks, 2019

428p.

9789994573264

\$ 30.00 / PB

536gm.

Dad, Mom, I am a serial killer...

He was born in the wrong body. Mistake corrected. He became a girl. Why is he now killing pretty girls?

A girl dumps her boyfriend and he swears revenge on her, or on all women. Disguised as a woman he kills his former girlfriend. Exhilarated by that experience he goes for a sex transplant and continues to kill as many pretty women as he possibly can.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839253>

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Namgu's Escape Theory / Beauty Boois

Windhoek: University of Namibia (UNAM) Press, 2020

viii, 158p.

9789991642598

\$ 30.00 / PB

196gm.

Namgu is a beautiful, privileged girl from a wealthy family. As she steers through life at school and university, struggling to find her place in the world, tragedy strikes. Her life is thrown into turmoil as she battles to find an escape from loneliness, anger and depression. Even her soul-mate, Sophia, 'the girl Carlos Santana sung into life' cannot reach her, while her boyfriend Tangeni deserts her. |Namgu's Escape Theory follows her journey through psychotherapy and social support to deal with the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder that engulfs her.

Bold, insightful and raw, |Namgu's Escape Theory is a début novel by talented young Namibian author Beauty Boois. It explores themes of identity, friendship, trauma and survival, and highlights issues of sexuality and mental health which are often seen as taboo in Namibian society.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839254>

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Ethnic Oshiwambo Names and Their Meanings – For Your Baby Boy and Girl – And Other

Works : Amphibious Henry: A Metamorphosis | Poison Apples / Simon Nakapunda

Windhoek: Simon Nakapunda (Self-Published), 2014

106p.

\$ 30.00 / PB

300gm.

Always wanted to know what your name meant? Or the name of your friend, colleague or you are looking for an Oshiwambo name for your new born baby? Looking for an excellent gift for a friends baby shower..... or a wonderful souvenir for friends visiting from abroad and they already have the cliched African gifts? Then this book is for you!

The book explains around 200 names both in English and Oshiwambo.

The list of names is followed by two beautiful stories for children. "Amphibious Henry: A Metamorphosis" and "Poison Apples".

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839255>

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## Travel Guidebooks

Discover the Colourful World of Owambo / Willie Olivier aka Othondoro  
Windhoek: Gondwana Collection Namibia, 2020  
368p.  
9789991689692  
\$ 55.00 / PB  
856gm.

Discover the Colourful World of Owambo is a comprehensive guide to the North, indispensable to the informed traveller. Studded with jewels of fascinating information, it offers several routes to explore as well as insight on a diverse array of subjects. Topics range from descriptions of the eight Aawambo communities, annual festivals, traditional dress and diet, including delicacies like mopane worms and bullfrogs, to the Cuvelai drainage system and trees of life, such as the omnipresent makalani palms. The routes contain historical snippets about the towns, regions, their traditional leaders and pre-independence clashes, and explorers, traders and missionaries who left their mark. They also include the rich narrative of popular sites like Nakambale - the old Finnish mission station, the Ombalantu Baobab at Outapi, Ruacana Falls, Lake Otjikoto and Etosha National Park.

Up until now Owambo has been a section of Namibia that hasn't featured in mainstream tourism. This is now changing. Author Willie Olivier has used his in-depth knowledge of the area gleaned over three decades of being a journalist in the North to provide a clear and concise introduction to Owambo for all who are ready to make its acquaintance.

Brimming with information, the book offers good reading for anyone interested in the Oshiwambo culture and history of the region.

The one-of-a-kind travel guide cum handbook will keep you absorbed every time you dip into it with its easy-to-read style and delicious detail.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839256>

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