

Recent Books from South Africa – Oct 2023

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Anthropology

Names – Fashioned by Gender: Stitched Perceptions / (Eds) Thenjiwe Meyiwa & Madoda Cekiso

Pretoria: UNISA Press, University of South Africa, 2022
xxviii, 343p.

Includes Index
9781776151288
\$ 35.00 / PB
604gm.

Names are very powerful and significant, especially in the African context. Across societies, there is a universal, albeit taken-for-granted fact that all human beings have names. Names Fashioned by Gender is a collection of essays on onomastics--a linguistics field of study focusing on the origin, form, history and use of proper names. The study of naming potentially provides significant evidence about the role of gender in the assimilation and/or enculturation processes as personal names evoke insight into the construction of gender and personhood in African societies.

The book takes intellectual course from the idea that how names are viewed and used is heavily context-dependent and gendered. It demonstrates that personal names are narratives derived from different contexts within various cultures and circumstances subsequently imposing different identities on name bearers. Through persuasive essays, this book elucidates that naming is an activity that needs to be conducted cautiously because names tend to determine the destiny and character of an individual.

Unfortunately, names are sometimes given without considering the consequences of ascribing names to people. This book asserts that females continue to be named according to gender stereotypes, therefore, evidently perpetuating women oppression. Sometimes, circumstances around one's birth may be used to name the child, including time, month, emotions, and weather among others. Music is also used to describe and denigrate the characters of women. Moreover, westernisation, colonisation, Christianity, patriarchy and African traditions influence African naming patterns.

Interrogating positions and attitudes of the larger society, what transpires from the discussion about this scholarly work is that personal names form and reflect ideas held about personal identities, children's well-being and underlying perceptions held by the public about boys versus girls and men relative to women.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857527>

Invisible Or Ignored: The Status of Indigenous South African Instruments in the Venda Society / Evans Ntshengedzeni Netshivhambe

Pretoria: UNISA Press, University of South Africa, 2023
x, 184p.

Includes Bibliography
9781776151554

\$ 40.00/ PB
334gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857528>

Biography/Memoirs

Diplomacy of Changes: From Apartheid to Democracy / Dawie Jacobs

Pretoria: Malan Media (Pty) Ltd., 2021

x, 174p.

9781920335878

\$ 40.00 / PB

316gm.

David (Dawie) Jacobs' journey began with a carefree childhood in the rural north-eastern Free State and took him to foreign capitals around the world – from close involvement with issues of justice, race, religion and politics in his own country to high-level discussions on these matters with foreign presidents.

After a career in the Department of Justice, Dawie served as South African diplomat under apartheid and democracy. He held senior positions under both, among others as ambassador to various countries. A golden thread running through his journey is his passion for building bridges between individuals, communities and nations.

Dawie is well known for his political commentary in various South African news-papers over the years, as well as for his sports diplomacy – he has arranged a number of rugby tours to and from South Africa.

He speaks English, Afrikaans, German and Spanish and enjoys photography, painting, writing, poetry and wildlife.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857529>

Mme Ruth Mompoti : A Life of Courage and Service / Mongane Serote (Ed) Isabelle Delvare

Cape Town: Seriti sa Sechaba Publishers NPC, 2023

344p.

Includes Index

9781776404803

\$ 55.00 / PB

466gm.

This is the life story of an exceptional person and African National Congress (ANC) cadre, Ruth Mompoti. It will be of interest and an inspiration to a wide readership in South Africa and beyond the country's borders, where she made numerous contacts and friends during and after South Africa's struggle against apartheid and colonialism.

The book covers Mompoti's early life and political awakening; her personal and political life while in exile as one of the very first women members of the ANC's military wing, uMkhonto we Sizwe, and as a strong leader in the ANC's senior leadership. It also deals with her role in the negotiations to end apartheid in the early 1990s and her contribution to the reconstruction of the country after 1994 in various roles in government.

The factual narrative and powerful reflective passages in Mongane Serote's portrait of a revered leader, draw on a great deal of original research and material. Mme Ruth Mompoti: A Life of Courage and Service, however, is much more than the average biography. The tale spun by its author is a rich tapestry of interwoven strands. On more than one occasion, Mongane pauses to describe, lovingly and carefully, one of the wellsprings of Ruth Mompoti's strength: the rich facets of African philosophy and traditions of her Setswana heritage, including beliefs about relationships between people, attitudes to the natural

world, and the ancestral presence of the numerous warriors of both genders who gave their blood for freedom.

Because this is in part a book honouring the contribution of women in the struggle, the author has paid special attention to the pain and strengths of women from the development of mining and throughout the twentieth century. This is a theme he returns to, then expands on in some of the most lyrical writing in the book.

More than a tribute, Mme Ruth Mompoti: A Life of Courage and Service is a means of salvaging and reviving the grandeur of various South African philosophical and political traditions. It offers readers a positive vision of enduring humanity.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857530>

Krish: Struggle Lawyer / Krish Naidoo
Johannesburg: Krish Naidoo (Self-Published), 2019
xii, 308p.
Includes Index
9780620834568
\$ 45.00 / PB
460gm.

Krish Naidoo practiced as a human rights lawyer in Johannesburg in the 1980s. This book records his life, the political trials he was involved in & his activities in sport, culture & the legal fraternity.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685233>

Painting A Life in Africa: The Story of Joan Van Gogh / Joan Van Gogh
Cape Town: Rockhopper Books, 2023
342p.
9780639792675
\$ 35.00 / PB
444gm.

Painting a Life in Africa is the vibrant story of Joan van Gogh, who has lived an unusual and adventurous life close to nature –even making her home amidst ancient caves and under majestic trees that thrive in the heart of the untamed bush. As a direct descendant of legendary artist Vincent van Gogh and an artist herself, Joan wielded the adversities and trials she encountered as her very own brushes, painting a vivid and extraordinary existence: from being a city girl who adapted to roughing it, to exploring some of the most remote and secretive places in southern Africa. With artful descriptions and a sprinkle of humour, you will be immersed in the wonderful feeling of sleeping under wild and silent African skies and experience a wilderness with few fences and many friendly people. The story also touches on anthropology, archaeology, the fascinating customs of Africa's tribal heritage and is altogether a kaleidoscope of one life. Painting a Life in Africa paints a mesmerizing portrait of one woman's remarkable journey through a land teeming with wonder and uncharted horizons.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857531>

Bwana, There's a Body in the Bath! / Peter Whitehead & Tony Park
Cape Town: Rockhopper Books, 2023
viii, 324p.
9780639792699
\$ 35.00 / PB
354gm.

Born in Shanghai and shipped to England as a child, Peter Whitehead then made his way to Australia, solo, at the age of 13 in 1938, in order to save his family money. Alone and working in near slave-like conditions as a farm labourer, Peter learned the art of breaking wild horses and so began a lifelong love affair with animals.

After wartime service as a horse breaker for the army and a gunner on a Liberator bomber, Peter headed to Africa and a richly varied career as an agricultural officer, national parks ranger, big game hunter, animal wrangler and rancher.

He worked on the sets of several big-name movies, including *Hatari!* with John Wayne, and handled lions for the smash hit film, *Born Free*.

Peter survived two aircraft crashes, as well as encounters with man-eating lions, zombie witches, and killer hippos, and nearly drowned in a crocodile infested river. Along the way, he also helped save an endangered species and found a woman who would put up with him. *Bwana, There's a Body in the Bath!* is Peter's story of nearly a century of incredible adventures.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857532>

Cinema Studies

Richard Green in *South African Film: Forging Creative New Directions* / Keyan G Tomaselli & Richard Green

Cape Town: BestRed, 2023

xx, 276p.

Includes Index

9781928246602

\$ 45.00 / PB

332gm.

Both a history and a critique of South Africa's film industry, this book recounts the long experience of filmmaker and producer Richard Green.

Green's story—especially his work in forging the film initiative *New Directions Africa*—is emblematic of the struggles, negotiations, and competing ideologies that faced South Africa as it emerged from apartheid. He continues to be an essential part of what is now a burgeoning industry that not only supports the creative work of Africans, but is also seen as having an important role in the nation-building process.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857533>

Economics

A Country of Agricultures: The Disparities, The Challenges, The Solutions / Wandile Sihlobo
Bryanston: Tracey McDonald Publishers, 2023

Xiv, 201p.

9781776443161

\$ 35.00 / PB

220gm.

Nearly three decades after the dawn of democracy, South Africa has remained a country of 'two agricultures. On the one hand we have a subsistence, primarily non-commercial, black farming segment. On the other hand, however, we have a predominantly commercial and white farming sector that is well-resourced and has access to domestic and international trade networks.

These disparities can be traced back to South Africa's painful history where, for decades, black farmers were on the margins of government support and also experienced land dispossession and livestock plunder.

A Country of Two Agricultures focuses less on history and more on the present and the future, explaining why these disparities have persisted in the democratic era, and what it will take to overcome them. It aims to contribute to a better understanding of the variety of agricultural forces, taking into account both questions of domestic political economy and external factors, as well as to bring to light new risks and opportunities.

Wandile Sihlobo offers insights into the role of agriculture in the South African economy from an agricultural economy perspective, and provides political economy insights that are rooted in the experiences of farming communities on the ground and right through the value chain.

Beyond insights on the realities this book offers the government, the private sector, and anyone interested in the betterment of the South African economy, tools to grapple with this duality, and proposes a framework for bolstering the black farming segment for growth and competitiveness – and ultimately food security.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857534>

History

SADTU and the Struggle for Professional Unionism / (Eds) Michael Cross, Logan Govender & Ahmed Essop

Pietermaritzburg: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press, 2023

xviii, 252p.

Includes Index

9781869145224

\$ 50.00 / PB

394gm.

This book traces the emergence and development of SADTU's professional unionism and explores its implications for teachers and the delivery of quality education in the context of SADTU's relationship with the state and the governing party, specifically the union's location within the ANC-led Tripartite Alliance. It highlights SADTU's role in the struggle for democracy, including its crusade for recognition as a non-racial union and its involvement in the development of post-apartheid education policy. However, despite its centrality in the education struggles of the past, SADTU's continued role and relevance in the development of the education system have become the subject of intense debate in the public domain, as it is seen as more focused on unionism and the political battles in the Alliance than on furthering teacher professionalism.

This volume explores how and why this has come about, and offers insights that would enable SADTU to reclaim its role and relevance in reimagining the future of education in South Africa in response to the socio-economic development challenges that confront the country in the twenty-first century.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=852664>

Amnesty Chronicles: The Inner History of the Amnesty Negotiations During the South African Transition, and the Origins of the TRC's Amnesty Process / Andre du Toit (Ed) Riaan de Villiers

Stellenbosch: Beyers Naude Centre for Public Theology, 2022

312p.

9780639722054

\$ 70.00 / PB

790gm.

The inner history of the amnesty negotiations during the South African transition, and the origins of the TRC's amnesty process.

André du Toit cuts through the forest of myths that surrounds the commission, and clears away the hagiographic brush that continues to smother one of South Africa's boldest political experiments to reveal essential truths about the high moral and political cost of South Africa's transition to democracy. Meticulous in his research, rigorous in his engagement with sources, both human and textual, and sophisticated in his analysis of what this all means, du Toit has given us a magisterial chronicle of how amnesty came to be such a vexed and divisive issue in post-apartheid South Africa. A fine achievement from one of South Africa's finest thinkers. ~ Jacob Dlamini, Associate Professor of History, Princeton University

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857535>

Water for a Thirsty Land: The Story of Orange River Project / SAICE History and Heritage (Eds) Tony Murray (et al.)

South Africa: Footprint Press, 2023

260p.

Includes Index

9781776405824

\$ 55.00 / HB

900gm.

This book was written by members of the SAICE History and Heritage Un (three of whom were on-site during construction of the project) to commemorate 50 years since the completion of the Gariep Dam. It describes in terms understandable by non-engineers, how the scheme evolved, how the dams, tunnels, and canals were built, how this bold project affected the country at the time, and how its benefits are being reaped today. It is a great record of achievement by civil engineers and a great South African success story.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857536>

Telling Stories of Pain and Hope: Museums in South Africa and Ireland / Mary Elizabeth Lange & Ruth Teer-Tomaselli

Pretoria: UNISA Press, University of South Africa, 2022

xviii, 186p.

Includes Index; Bibliography

9781776151677

\$ 40.00 / PB

354gm.

The histories of South Africa and Ireland have been tumultuous and traumatic. Both countries have experienced political repression, sectarian violence and oppression that still impact the spiritual well-being of people today. Their parallel histories are of colonialism, displacement and division, and a fight for land and sovereignty. Both countries have embarked on a process of healing and reconciliation, yet there is an ongoing struggle for reparation and/or reversal of previous injustices. Recognising that museums of the 21st century have the potential to contribute to catharsis and mutual understanding, this book reflects on selected museums in South Africa and Ireland that commemorate the pain of the past and the hope for the future. The authors spoke to a range of people who work at or with community, local, and national museums, recording their curatorial choices of stories, artefacts and exhibitions. They note how the museums' staff tell these stories in a way that

ensures that they do not impact the storytellers' spiritual well-being negatively. The primary focus of the book is the way in which museum guides, curators and managers share their stories and the stories of their ancestors, and the stories of other people's ancestors who were caught up in the conflict while interweaving the stories of the authors as well.

A reviewer noted that the book is "a wonderful introduction to a complex narrative which is described and explained with the personal stories of the author and foregrounds the reasons for their work and the individuals who have shared their stories. This clarity of focus and foregrounding of the storyteller guides and the personal stories of the authors makes this book more accessible to a large audience". The book reviewers found it to be "engaging, interesting and very readable ... thoroughly satisfying". It is "accessible to specialist readers, as well as the general public with an interest in this topic and the histories included in it. It also has relevance to those academics working in the fields of oral history and museums".

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857537>

South Africa's Struggle for Independent Education: The African Methodist Episcopal Church and the History of the Wilberforce Institute / Vusumuzi Rodney Kumalo

Cape Town: BestRed (HSRC Press), 2022

xiv, 226p. ; 235x168mm.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9781928246497

\$ 45.00 / PB

390gm.

South Africa's Struggle for Independent Education focuses on the Wilberforce Institute, one of the first major independent African schools in segregationist South Africa. It became the epicentre of the independent school movement in the Transvaal in the early twentieth century, demonstrating how despite profound linguistic differences and regional backgrounds, newly urbanised, mission-educated African people shared far-reaching educational aspirations in the rapidly growing cosmopolitan, gold-driven Johannesburg after the South African War (1899–1902).

The book examines how their common histories of oppression, segregation, displacement and dispossession, as well as despair and disillusionment with the mainstream missionary education, incited the new urban dwellers to wage the struggle for African independent education, and tells the story of how their determination led to the formation of the Wilberforce Institute.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857538>

The Last Rhodesians – Society Adrift: Origins, Culture Identity, Literature History, War, Exodus, Destiny / Duncan Clarke

South Africa: Royale Sable Publishing, 2022

xxxx, 690p.

Includes Index

9781928440956

\$ 60.00 / PB

934gm.

The book provides an extensive and in-depth text on Rhodesian origins in history, its cultures, identity and literature as well as the civil war, serial exoduses that took place over the last fifty years and destiny lived by Rhodesians, as well as the left behind and aftermath encountered in the House of Stone.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857539>

Zheng He's Voyages to Africa in the 15th Century: The Maritime Silk and Porcelain Road / Zheng Yijun (et al.) (Ed) Li Xinfeng (Translator) Shelly Bryant
Pretoria: AISA Press, 2023

xxx, 362p.

Includes Index

9780798305389

\$ 55.00 / PB

636gm.

Zheng He, a great Chinese navigator and messenger of peace, expanded the Maritime Silk Road, which connected China with the rest of the world more than 600 years ago. Zheng He's fleet visited four countries and peoples along the Indian Ocean coast of East Africa during his seven epic voyages, laying the groundwork for later friendship and cooperation between Africa and China. The journey was a manifestation of traditional Chinese philosophy, which values harmony.

Readers can expect an in-depth and multi-faceted account of Zheng He's voyages to Africa, from the impact and significance of his arrival on the continent to the relationships he formed with African people.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857540>

It's Our Land You Want: The Never-Ending Struggle for Land, Cattle and Power / Robin Binckes

Johannesburg: Spear of Nation, 2022

xii, 532p.

Includes Index; Select Bibliography

9781776344086

\$ 60.00 / PB

772gm.

It's Our Land You Want is the comprehensive sequel to the best seller Great Trek Uncut. This well researched, hard hitting and detailed account of our history covers the period of 1852 through to 1918 and highlights milestone events which affected all the different people of this country from the time of the four independent states through Union and beyond. Wonderful stories illustrate some of the complexities of our society and show how difficult it was, and is, to mould a homogenous society out of our diverse cultures and people. Throughout the theme of the title re-occurs "It's our land you want", as the struggle for land, cattle and power characterizes every conflict in our history. Whilst charting the unfolding history, wonderful stories make the book difficult to put down. Stories which include Nongquase and the decimation of the Xhosa Nation; One President – two Countries; "Daar Kom die Alabama"; Moshesh and the Basuto Wars, The discovery of diamonds, The First South African War, the discovery of gold, the Jameson Raid; the Griqua Trek, the second South African War, the Bambatha Rebellion, the birth of the African National Congress and Nationalist Party, the Boer Rebellion, World War 1 including the Mendi and Delville Wood and many vivid stories which make this not only a comprehensive history book, but an entertaining and easy to read story which brings the people and events to life.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857541>

20 Battles: Searching for a South African Way of War 1913-2013 / Evert Kleynhans & David Brock Katz

Jeppeshtown, Johannesburg: Delta Books, 2023

xvi, 320p.

Includes Index

9781928248224
\$ 45.00 / PB
408gm.

Favouring manoeuvre over attrition and often punching above their weight, South African soldiers have become known for their tenacity, dash and ability to defy the odds. Their unique directive command style has also helped them to excel in defining battles and operations, from the campaign in German South West Africa in 1915 to the cross-border operations in Angola during the Border War.

In *20 Battles*, military historians Evert Kleynhans and David Brock Katz investigate the evolution of South Africa's armed forces over a century from 1913 to 2013. They track the evolution of the doctrine and structure of the defence force, uncovering historical continuity and the lessons learned from past battles and operations.

What is clear is that when South African soldiers have the freedom to operate according to their manoeuvre doctrine, as they had in East Africa in 1916 and southern Ethiopia in 1941, they can achieve stunning results. But when hemmed in by rigid doctrine and a top-down command style, as at Delville Wood in 1916 and Tobruk in 1942, the results can be tragic. *20 Battles* combines both battlefield drama and crisp analysis and, in the process, provides a much-needed perspective on the South African way of war.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857542>

The Great War : Letters Home : Letters and Diaries of a South African Family, 1913-1920 /
(Ed) John Stanford

Makhanda: Mvusi Books, 2020
250p. ; 210x148mm. ; B/W Illustrations.
9780986979156
\$ 34.10 / PB
288gm.

From 1913 to 1920, the Molteno-Murray family published a private journal called "Chronicle of the Family". It appeared three times a year, providing news of the family scattered throughout South Africa, Britain, and Kenya - a means, as one of the editors put it, "of preventing the younger members growing up strangers to each other." When war was declared in 1914, the Chronicle began to include letters from family serving in the military and medical corps in diverse contexts, including the war fronts in German East Africa and South West Africa, the trenches of France, and naval battles. News from home continued with accounts of life on a Karoo farm, a horse trek in Basotuland, a leftist political rally in London, and reminiscences of older family members.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=739815>

Dreams & Dust: Short-lived Republics of South Africa – Past, Present and Imagined / Alex Stone

South Africa: Footprint Press, 2023
636p.
9780639805085
\$ 45.00 / PB
958gm.

Dreams & Dust is a unique book and an important contribution to the evolving new historiography of South Africa. It is an overview of the 58 (mostly) short-lived republics that have existed in South Africa since 1795 - and an equally-fascinating 20 fictional ones (Bapetikosweti, Fook, Wakanda etc). This comprehensive, meticulously-researched book

stretches to 611 pages, and includes 85 seldom-seen historical maps and many extraordinary images.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857543>

Law

African Yearbook on International Humanitarian Law 2021 / (Ed-in-Chief) Mia Swart
Claremont, Cape Town: Juta and Company (Pty) Ltd, 2022

1v.

ISSN: 1997-8391

\$ 65.00 / PB

286gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=856776>

Literature

An Angel's Demise: A Novel / Sue Nyathi
Johannesburg: Pan Macmillan South Africa, 2022

352p.

9781770108080

\$ 35.00 / PB

435gm.

An Angel's Demise is an epic saga that explores a contested legacy and the heartrending destiny of a family. The year is 1977 and the story begins on a farm in Somabhula with the birth of Angel.

The farm is run by Paul Williams, an outwardly harsh and bigoted man who holds the livelihoods of many in his hands. When Angel's parents join the liberation struggle, she is left in the care of her grandmothers, who have been in service to the Williams family for generations.

Angel grows up on the farm over three momentous decades that see a convoluted past and inheritance unfold into an equally complicated present. Through her, we see a woman's quest to unearth her identity and assert her independence. In the process of self-discovery, Angel realises that sometimes you need to be uprooted before you can grow.

An Angel's Demise, Sue Nyathi's fourth novel, is a gripping tale infused with spirituality. It recounts an explosive story of love, war, bloody massacre and betrayal that encompasses a harrowing history, the cruel caprice of politics, gender-based violence and what happens when ordinary people get caught up in lies.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=852943>

Politics/Current Affairs

The BRICS in Africa: Promoting Development? / (Ed) Funeka Y. April (et al.)
Cape Town: HSRC Press, 2023

452p.

Includes Index

9780796926371

\$ 45.00 / PB

714gm.

Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) nations have become a strong engine of South-South Cooperation. The most significant outcome of the emergence of BRICS is the shift they have brought to the balance of power in global affairs. The past decade has steadily accelerated commercial and strategic engagements between BRICS and Africa. The BRICS countries constitute Africa's largest trading partners and new investors. BRICS has nourished Africa's economic emergence and elevated the continent's contemporary global positioning. This book seeks to determine the potential of BRICS-Africa cooperation in promoting African development.

Some of the critical issues in this book include the following: a) What will be the impact of intra-BRICS and BRICS–Africa cooperation and partnerships, mainly through the New Industrial Revolution, financial technologies, infrastructure, economic growth and development in health; b) Determine the relevance of the BRICS New Development Bank in the post-COVID era; c) Examine the governance and accountability mechanisms required to entrench BRICS governance cooperation with the continent, and e) Determine strategies that address gender developmental disparities and inequalities in BRICS and Africa. This book consists of five sections, preceded by an introduction and later at the end of the chapters, a conclusion. The five mentioned sections respond to the 2020 12th BRICS Summit, 'Global Stability, Shared Security, and Innovative Growth thematic thrusts.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857544>

Splendid Isolation: Weighing Africa's Role In The Global Balance Of Powers / Wandile Msomi
South Africa: Wandile Msomi, 2023

212p.

9780639777139

\$ 35.00 / PB

242gm.

Who has earned Africa's brotherhood, friendship, and loyalty?

As the battle for influence in Africa rages on, Africans have been caught in the middle of major economic and military powers at each other's throats once again.

In recent years, many have often struggled to fully understand and grasp the geopolitical landscape, global balance of forces and the struggle for power, influence, and dominance on the world stage.

As a result, this book seeks to break down the historical geopolitical dynamics that have given rise to current global political issues, dissect major geopolitical developments over the last few years and attempt to locate Africa's position in the global balance of power.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857545>

21 Voices From Israel and South Africa: Why the Palestinian Struggle Matters / Marthie Momberg

South Africa: Naledi, De Kelders, 2023

xviii, 508p. ; 222x148mm.

9781928530794

\$ 45.00 / PB

688gm.

The deep differences between the Palestinian and Israeli narratives lead many to conclude that it is too difficult to understand how it all began, and if and how to choose sides.

Why be involved in this matter when there are so many atrocities in the world? Is there a way out of the deadlock?

This book – in content and style – represents a fresh approach to the field of Palestine-Israel studies. It is accessible, yet scientifically and ethically accountable.

The conversations with 21 activists from South Africa and Israel who campaign for Palestinian rights shatter perceptions cultivated by widespread propaganda to show that the issue is, after all, not so difficult to understand. One by one they connect the private and the public, the particular and the general, the conceptual and the practical, the local and the global.

21 Voices is stirring and illuminating. It demonstrates how citizens can step forward and make a difference in tumultuous times when power abuse and lawlessness have thrown morals into confusion. It will appeal to anyone interested in the kind of leadership that aims to shape healthier societies.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857546>

South African Local Government: Challenges and Prospects / Sam Bambo

South Africa: Empore Publishers, 2022

336p.

9780639719795

\$ 40.00 / PB

426gm.

This book gives an account on the third sphere of government which is local government. It focuses on aspects of this sphere of government that relate to performance in governance, service delivery and financial management. The author attributes poor performance to factors outside the municipal environment as well.

Business and political actors outside the municipality have been found seeking to illegally influence decisions of role players within the municipality. Solutions must be found beyond the measures and remedies currently applied, given the fact that same such measures and remedies do not seem to be effective. Ordinary measures have been tried and tested. South Africa needs a paradigm shift in local government, which should include inter-governmental relations.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857547>

Psychology

Masculinity Meets Humanity: An Adapted Model of Masculinised Psychotherapy / Shahieda Jansen

Pretoria: UNISA Press, University of South Africa, 2022

xiv, 208p.

Includes Index

9781776151592

\$ 40.00 / PB

348gm.

In a patriarchal society like South Africa, men are frequently portrayed as strong, invincible and powerful. However, high rates of male-driven violence suggest that men may be struggling with negative emotions. Chronic absence of fathers brought on by migrant labour practices, substance abuse and unemployment, among others, cause some men to resort to violence as a coping mechanism. In this book the author, a clinical psychologist, reflects on her psychotherapy experiences with male clients as she debunks the myth of male alexithymia, the inability to recognise and express emotions. Men are apparently disengaged from wellness practices as they are perceived to be reluctant to seek mental health care.

An ubuntu-inspired personhood discourse of trust, empathy and transformation theoretically underpins the author's clinical practice. Men's group participants risk being vulnerable as they support each other's suffering during story telling of abuse, loss and abandonment. The integration of the culturally familiar philosophy of ubuntu challenges the hegemony of strictly modern Western psychological discourses and theories. The latter have not always been uncritically accepted in the African context, even though she, like most of her mental health colleagues, largely draws on Euro-American psychological theories and practices. Although the book is not a manual for how to do therapy with men, neither a panacea for all male related challenges, it can ignite empathic insights and kindle gender sensitive responses to male concerns, locally and internationally.

Women, who are frequently the targets of gender-based violence primarily committed by men, may play a significant role in the rehabilitation and healing of men. Men are usually excluded from psychosocial interventions, but this book makes the case that prioritising the wellbeing of boys and men is critical to creating a society that is safe for everyone-men, women, children, and the broader public.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857548>

South Africa's High-Stress Security Environment: Keys to Coping / Gerhard Schoeman
Pretoria: UNISA Press, University of South Africa, 2023

xiv, 124p.

Includes Index

9781776151837

\$ 35.00/ PB

240gm.

This book delves into methods for coping with stress in a high-stress security environment. The causes and consequences of stress are explored, followed by a comprehensive discussion of coping strategies that can be used by security personnel.

A scientifically tested model for coping with stress in a high-stress security environment is presented, indicating the relationship between personality and coping. This is potentially ground-breaking since it explores the relationship between personality and coping in an innovative way. The model provides a simplified visual presentation of the coping process and the flow between stressors, personality, coping strategies, the positive outcomes of coping effectively and the negative consequences of not coping.

Both the coping strategies, and the discussion on personality, are applicable to any person working within a stressful environment.

The areas of stress and coping in the security environment have not previously been researched in this manner, and this book fills a gap in the theoretical and practical arena of coping in high-stress environments, providing a workable model that can be used in industry.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857549>

Religion-Christianity

AN EARTHED FAITH: Telling the Story Amid the "Anthropocene", Volume 2 : How Would We Know What God Is Up To? / (Eds) Ernst M. Conradie & Cynthia Moe-Lobeda

AN EARTHED FAITH Series

Cape Town: AOSIS Publishing, 2022

xxvi, 232p.

Includes Index

ISSN: 2790-4288 ; 9781779952424

\$ 90.00 / PB
410gm.

This second volume in the series on "An Earthed Faith" will address the following question: "Given what we know about the Anthropocene, how does one even begin to answer the question: What is this God up to, and how ought humans respond?" This is a question of theological method, including the sources and interlocutors of Christian theology, its aims and starting points, social theories shaping it, and presuppositions grounding it. Addressing this question is the classic task of doing contextual theology, namely describing and analysing a particular context and considering how this context may best be addressed theologically and practically. The question highlights the need for prophetic theology to discern the "signs of the time", to recognise a "moment of truth" (Kairos) and to discern counter-movements of the Spirit. The question of method opens the door to constructive critique of how theology has been done and should be done.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=847821>

Sociology/Culture Studies

Critically Diverse Perspectives on COVID-19: Interviews with a Varied Range of South Africans / (Eds) Sayan Dey & Shankhdeep Chattopadhyay
Pretoria: UNISA Press & National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS), 2023

130p.

Includes Index

9781776151721

\$ 35.00 / PB

234gm.

The worldwide Covid-19 pandemic not only generated medical and health crises but also reconfigured the already existing social, cultural, racial, communal, legal, political, sociological, psychological, geographical, and economic hierarchies across the globe. Suddenly, the world saw how financially flourishing communities began overbuying grocery, medical and other household items and the economically deprived communities were left with little or no access; how certain religious and communal groups were selectively demonised and penalised for spreading the virus; how the people from socio-economically backward rural and urban spaces have been denied access to basic health, hygiene, and medical facilities; how the Euro-North American medical practitioners have been treating selective bodies as laboratories of vaccine experiment. The editors Sayan Dey and Shankadeep Chattopadhyay spoke to a diverse range of scholars and practitioners to make sense of the impact of the pandemic. The book offers a broad set of perspectives.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857550>

#Stay Woke, Go Broke: Why South Africa Won't Survive America's Culture Wars (And What You Can Do About It!) / Helen Zille

South Africa: Obsidian Worlds Publishing, 2021

xiv, 202p.

9780620929219

\$ 35.00 / PB

350gm.

It's time to fight back.

Each day, more South Africans are targeted, labelled, and hounded out of society for expressing their opinions – ordinary opinions that just a few years ago were accepted as rational common sense.

Have you been "cancelled" by an online mob that won't stop harassing you until you're fired from your job?

Helen Zille almost was - but she survived by fighting back.

In #StayWoke: Go Broke, the bestselling author and defining South African political figure explains why the woke Left constitutes a greater threat to South Africa's future than the populist Right does.

Now more than ever, liberals must strengthen their spines and fight for their values - or be eviscerated in the Culture Wars raging across the English-speaking world.

If you're looking for an incisive, indispensable survival guide through this tumultuous period of South African history, then #StayWoke: Go Broke is for you.

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