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MREMA OFFERED FOREIGN ACCOUNT

Tanzania's campaigning anti-corruption Home Affairs Minister, Augustine Mrema, received US\$1,000 and £4,000 during a visit to Europe in October. The money was to help him to open a private foreign exchange account and was allegedly meant to secure favours from his office. The Minister declined to name the people who had given him the money but stated that they were private businessmen with vested interests in the country. "I was very disappointed by the attitude of those people" he said, adding that he had, upon returning to Tanzania, converted the foreign currency into Tanzanian shillings and opened an account at the National Bank of Commerce. He said that he was going to use the money to reward whoever gave him tips on individuals receiving bribes. "I have set aside this account specially to deal with corruption" he underlined.

Commenting on generalised foreign exchange racketeering, Mr Mrema said that the solution was to authorise Tanzanians to hold private accounts in foreign currency within the country - Daily News.

The Minister has been active in other directions too.

After receiving complaints from citizens in Marangu, Moshi, about certain administrators, he has told them to stop harassing women who have bought commodities from markets in a neighbouring country. He said that the habit of searching women should stop. He was more interested in the big-time border smugglers whose names were known.

On November 3rd he received a commitment from Dar es Salaam transporter Amiral Somji to the effect that Somji would repay, in six monthly instalments, Shs 30 million in duty on imports of textiles that he admitted having evaded during the last three years.

Later in November he participated in the newly established Sungusungu (traditional defence groups) 'night patrols' being organised in Dar es Salaam against burglars and bandits.

At a full meeting with the Tanzania Journalists Association he accepted the award of 'Newsmaker for June 1991' and expressed his appreciation of the help he was receiving from the press in rooting out corruption.

He also gave the Dar es Salaam based firm Cargo Master International Ltd seven months in which to pay Shs 452,732,613 customs and sales tax it had been evading. In the event of failure to pay the firm would be taken to court.

One man who walked 75 kilometres from Bagamoyo to Dar es Salaam just to thank the Minister for doing a good job said that he was really a 'Black Jesus'.

AND IN LONDON

The Minister for Home Affairs ('Mambo ya Ndani') explained in some detail the background to his anti-corruption drive when he addressed a packed meeting at the Tanzania High Commission in London on October 22nd 1991. The address was characterised by the vigour of its presentation, the liberal use of emotive words - 'dhuluma' (swindling), 'haki' (justice), 'usawa' (equality), 'kushirikiana', (to cooperate) in the 'vita' (war) against corruption of all kinds. "I will never let you down" he said; the speech was also notable for its great good humour and the emphasis placed on the rights of women - "We are very serious about this - we will use State machinery to help women". He said that he was determined to stop the beating of women by men and to defend womens' inheritance rights. Needless to say the speech was welcomed with acclamation by the women in the audience - "Why are you not applauding?" he asked the men who were present (laughter).

He was asked about his encouragement of traditional guards (Sungusungu) to assist in security duties. Would this not usurp the role of the police?. He said that the police could not be everywhere and that there were some similarities between the 'Sungusungu' in Tanzania and the 'Neighbourhood Watch' schemes in Britain.

Another participant said that Tanzania needed many more Mrema's. Mr Mrema couldn't deal with all the corruption by himself. The Minister replied that he had many supporters able and willing to keep up the good work. It was up to everybody to take part in the anti-corruption campaign.

Mr Richard Mpopo, Chairman of the Tanzania Association, which had organised the meeting, gave a powerful vote of thanks in which he reinforced the Minister's crusading zeal, pointed to Mr Mrema's unquestionable sincerity and analytic approach and explained how all that he had done had been a liberating experience for Tanzanians. "Everyone must now subject himself to self-criticism" he said in supporting the view that the campaign would only succeed if everyone took part - DRB

THREE DECADES AT THE UNIVERSITY

Thirty years have now passed since the birth of one of Africa's most renowned centres of learning - the University of Dar es Salaam. Very few universities in Africa have been able to attract the kind of international interest and financial support that Tanzania's first institution of higher learning has managed to drum up. Even fewer have intellectually flourished independently of government directives while at the same time training their quota of skilled managers and

technicians for Africa's know-how-starved economies. But the economic stagnation of the 1980's chilled much of the intellectual fervour that had marked the 1960's and 1970's.

THE FACULTY OF LAW AND THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

In October 1961 the Faculty of Law of the University of East Africa was opened in its temporary quarters in the TANU party building in Dar es Salaam. Meanwhile Western donor funds were invested in a new dream campus atop the lush hills on the outskirts of the city. President Nyerere officially opened proceedings on 'the Hill', as the new campus of the University College came to be known, in August 1964. The euphoria of independence was still very much in the air; students enjoyed quite privileged circumstances, and as time went by, some began to acquire the reputation of being elitist. One thing is clear: they dubbed their main dining hall 'Harvard' and, as campus legend has it, wore shirt and tie to meals and ordered from proper menus!

The Canadian professor Cranford Pratt, one of the foremost scholars on Tanzanian political economy, was appointed the first Principal of the University College. He would soon be joined by a host of other foreigners - among them Terence Ranger, Goren Hyden, Helge Kjekshus, Lionel Cliffe, John Saul, Andrew Coulson and Michel von Freyhold - who came to typify the kind of Western intellectual of liberal to radical bent who would arrive on campus over the next twenty years, drawn to Tanzania by the progressive rhetoric of President Nyerere and the promising spirit of 'Ujamaa'. The University was to attract prominent Third World intellectuals as well including the famed Marxist historian from Guyana, Walter Rodney.

PROTEST BEGINS

The quiet days at the Hill came to an abrupt end in 1965 when the government sent police to break up a student-organised attack on the British High Commissioner in protest at Britain's non-committal stance on Rhodesian UDI. The following year the National Association of Tanzanian Students organised a march to State House in protest at the governments' plans to mandate two years of national service for secondary and university school leavers. Particularly arrogant phrases in the student declaration ('This is an ultimatum') and the unfortunate presence of some offensive poster board slogans ('Colonialism was better') no doubt sparked President Nyerere's ire. Nyerere's response was to become legendary and certainly left its mark on Tanzania. In response to student complaints about high salaries of leaders and civil servants he slashed his own salary by 20% and agreed to revise the salaries of others permanently. Some 400 students were sent home and before they were allowed to return, Nyerere had released the Arusha Declaration which included strict guidelines on the accumulation of wealth by party and government leaders.

After the students were allowed to return and during the following years the ideas of Black Power and workers' revolution were powerfully advocated by visiting lecturers like Stokely Carmichael, C.L.R. James

and A. M Babu. For some time the increasingly radicalised university community welcomed Nyerere's socialistic rhetoric and supported the policies of TANU.

THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM AND POLITICAL DEBATE

In July 1970 the University of East Africa broke up and the Dar campus became a fully fledged national university. Some student's began to dissent. The law student Issa Shivji came out against the 'sham socialism' of the Arusha Declaration and the 'bureaucratic bourgeoisie' of the party and government machinery. An intense debate followed on the nature of Tanzanian socialism accompanied by such incidents as the detention of the student organisation president, a student boycott of classes and a period of a year during which students refused to cooperate with any University institutions - including the campus bar.

As events during the 1970's threw a hard light on both the socialist experiment of Nyerere's government and the debates in the university, the left became split into warring factions. There was still a large group supporting Nyerere's policies but another group continued to argue that the bureaucratic bourgeoisie had 'hijacked' Tanzanian socialism.

Then, in 1978, the government announced salary increases of up to 40% for leaders. This was seen by students as a clear contradiction of the Arusha Declaration and, on March 5, 1,500 students marched on the city centre. They were brutally attacked by the police. 400 were taken away to their homes without due process of law and the government media engaged in a concerted campaign against them.

THE EFFECTS OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS

By 1980 the country had entered the most profound economic crisis of its 20-year history and by 1986 the University had ebbed to its lowest point ever. The once beautiful facility on the Hill had collapsed. The water system had broken down and lack of spare parts delayed its repair until 1990. Campus restrooms became unserviceable and the odour of backed up excrement pervaded the campus for years - a pungent metaphorical reminder of the rot that was spreading through the land. Shelves in the bookstore remained empty save for the dust-covered stacks of Lenin and Mao. Staff salaries could not support the most modest of families. The once-vindicated supporters of Nyerere quietly sought sabbaticals. Expatriates trickled home. Corruption soared; twice - in 1986 and 1988 - the students struck against corruption and deteriorating conditions, but to no avail. The University fell into the hands of those who would not rock the boat.

A NEW CONSERVATIVE GENERATION

By the middle of 1988 the university was bankrupt and unable to open for class as scheduled in July. When classes were finally resumed in October, one of the last foreign radicals, the Jamaican political scientist, Horace Campbell, a disciple of the late Rodney, was no longer on the University payroll. His release was symbolic of the new Mwinyi

government's attempt to forget about Nyerere's socialist dream while still attempting to maintain a monopoly on political power.

A new conservative generation dominated the University staff. Regardless of ideology, however, they were just as susceptible to the temptations of political corruption as their illustrious predecessors and just as capable of feeling the pinch of economic want. Despite numerous 'campaigns' against corruption and despite the new signs of life slowly emerging in the country's economy as a result of the Mwinyi economic recovery programme, the plight of the University teachers and students continued to deteriorate.

THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

The fall of the Berlin Wall in the autumn of 1989 again stirred the students to action. Now it appeared that they had the weight of world events on their side. Not only could they present their former demands for an end to corruption and a consequent rehabilitation of the campus, but also a new call for a multi-party democracy.

Readers of recent issues of the Bulletin will be familiar with happenings on the Hill since then. The boycott of classes in May 1990, the 'wall literature' which so offended President Mwinyi, the subsequent closure of the University, the Mroso Commission (which vindicated the behaviour of the students), the rapid rehabilitation of the physical plant of the University (running water was now reaching all parts of the campus), the transfer of the popular Vice-Chancellor, Professor R.G.V. Mmari to head the new Open University and the launching, in June 1991, of a 'Dar es Salaam Declaration of Academic Freedom'. Back in the days when President Nyerere - then himself a writer and intellectual of growing repute - used to casually stride around the corridors in his capacity as University 'Visitor', and used to candidly discuss matters of national significance with students, such a declaration would have sounded odd.

THE FUTURE

Now, in October 1991, as the third decade of the University winds to a close in the wake of the dramatic collapse of socialism in the Soviet Union, it remains to be seen what will become of the University.

The University community - once again acting as the conscience of Tanzania - may again find itself on uncomfortable ground. Even if it wins the current battle for free intellectual expression, and even should CCM party hegemony eventually come to an end, to which ideological corner will this new 'conscience' turn when it becomes clear that the much vaunted 'multi-party, free-market democracy' has failed to deliver the promised goods?

Paul A Isbell Munch

100,000 ORPHANS

There are now about 100,000 orphans in Tanzania whose parents have died from AIDS, President Mwinyi announced

recently. Furthermore, he said that there were many elderly people left behind as destitutes following the death of their sons and daughters due to AIDS. Some 500,000 women - 8% of all women of child bearing age were said to have developed the HIV micro organism which triggers the deadly disease.

"We have to be frank about this situation" he said. "Unless something is done soon, AIDS threatens to wipe out our nation". He said that AIDS was not only a medical problem but a serious disaster which demanded a multi-sector approach - Daily News.

MASSIVE COTTON CROP

Although final figures were not available at time of going to press it is apparent that the 1990 - 1991 cotton crop has been the highest in nearly three decades. By November 11th the Tanganyika Cotton Marketing Board had collected some 458,000 bales and the General Manager of the Board, Mr Timothy Shindika, said that the total could reach 500,000 bales.

PRIVATE SECTOR EXPORTS UP

Businessmen in the private sector exported goods worth US\$ 169.34 million in the 1989/90 and 1990/91 financial years, the Minister of State in the President's office, Prof Kighoma Malima, has announced. This was, he said, 19% above the target.

The Professor went on to say that the Investment Promotion Centre had so far approved 22 projects from foreign investors, 53 joint ventures and 97 others from local entrepreneurs. 47% of the projects were in the industrial sector, 17% in agriculture, 15% in tourism, 10% in natural resources, and 6% in transportation - Daily News-

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WARIOBA LOSES SEAT

Minister for Regional Administration and Local Government and former Prime Minister and First Vice-President, Joseph Warioba, lost his Parliamentary seat in October after the nullification of last year's election results in the Bunda constituency. Declaring the seat vacant before a packed Musoma Cultural Centre audience, the Chairman of the Electoral Commission said the complainant who had opposed him in the election, Mr Ramadhani Mkondya, had not been afforded a fair and equal opportunity to be elected by Bunda District CCM Political Committee. Counsel for Mr Warioba had submitted that, as Prime Minister, he was entitled to ceremonial privileges inherent in his post. The complainant said that Warioba had used Party and Government machinery to influence voters.

In mid-December it was announced that Mr Warioba was one of five candidates hoping to re-contest the seat in the forthcoming by election.

FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN PLANE

The Daily News reported in its November 1st issue that a South African Airways (SAA) plane was expected in Dar es Salaam - the first flight to the country since Tanzania's independence. The plane came to collect more than 100 exiles living in Tanzania.

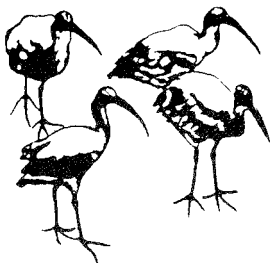
Meanwhile, the Business Times, in a front page article quoting the Director General of the Board of External Trade, wrote that Tanzania was running out of time to penetrate the important South African import-export market. Others were reported to have said that, as late comers, Tanzania could find most of the trade and economic opportunities taken up by competitors. Tanzania, unlike other SADCC countries, was said to be placing politics above economic realities.

SIDA AND USAID UNHAPPY

Representatives of two donor agencies have been making some surprisingly critical remarks recently.

The Swedish Development Agency's Head of Development Cooperation, Mr Bo Westman, announced in September that SIDA was temporarily blocking funds meant for development activities in Tanzania, pending publication of all grants in public accounts and explanations on the 'misallocation of funds by the Treasury to unintended projects'.

And the outgoing Director of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) Mr Jo Stepanek, in a 'Monograph on Tanzania's Development' stated that 'the corrosive forces of population growth and public corruption are severely undercutting Tanzania's ability to produce and to govern. Donor dependence sustains the elite as it threatens sovereignty'.



The Wild Bird Trade

Tanzania has earned an international reputation as a leader in the field of wildlife conservation and is world famous for its national parks and wildlife. Nearly a quarter of the country is under some sort of wildlife protection order. Despite this Tanzania is the second largest exporter (after Senegal) of wild caught birds in Africa.

The bulk, if not all of Tanzania's wild bird exports, are of its own native species, unlike some Far Eastern exporters/markets. There are over 200 registered bird and animal exporters. The main trade is in Estrilid finches (waxbills, cordon bleus etc), weavers, bishops, whydahs and, to a lesser extent, native parrots especially the endemic Fisher's Lovebird. Large bird exports are dominated by flamingoes, storks (especially marabou), ibises and crowned crane. Trapping appears to be centred in Dodoma, Shinyanga and Kilimanjaro regions with holding grounds in Arusha and Dar es Salaam.

CONCERN ABOUT WELFARE AND CONSERVATION

Increasing concern is being expressed in Tanzania and internationally about the welfare and conservation aspects of the trade. It should be stressed however that the bulk of the Tanzanian trade is legal, according to Tanzanian and international law. But there is evidence of some illegal acts being committed.

Studies of the wild bird trade elsewhere have shown that there are huge losses suffered at capture, in the holding grounds and whilst being transported and there is no reason to suppose conditions in Tanzania are any different. In a well publicised case recently at least 1,200 birds died miserably on a flight from Tanzania to Heathrow. In 1982 a report by Kim Howell of the University of Dar es Salaam made a number of recommendations which helped to stop the trade in the yellow-collared lovebird (only found in a wild state in Tanzania). In 1948 Moreau (the doyen of African ornithology) commented on the huge numbers of lovebirds being exported (40-50,000 per annum) and in 1987 and 1988 a total of 183,607 live imports of lovebirds were reported, Tanzania being the source of the majority. 43% of birds imported into Britain from Tanzania in 1988 and 1989 were of unidentified species. Whilst there may be some excuse for not identifying non-breeding plumage whydahs or weavers there should be no excuse for not identifying families such as barbets, starlings, coots, mousebirds, turacos, hornbills, flamingoes, lovebirds, rollers, waders and orioles.

REGULATION

The Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania was partly formed in 1987 because of the growing concern about unregulated exploitation of wild birds. As a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) Tanzania has agreed to regulate its trade in CITES Appendix species. No CITES Appendix 1 species (the highest level of protection eg: elephants) are regularly exported but a number of Appendix 2 species (where a measure of control is needed), especially native parrots and lovebirds are exported.

Some of the concerns of conservationists are that no account is taken of the breeding season for particular species and the special dangers that this brings to certain populations; the lack of population studies which would determine viable annual offtakes; the inclusion in export quotas of birds from threatened habitats such as montane forests and of Tanzanian endemics for which Tanzania has sole responsibility; and, the fact that trapping is not illegal in forest reserves.

Tanzania regulates its wild bird exports by means of a quota system, the quotas being determined on a rarity/vulnerability basis. Quotas are allocated per dealer. Since there appear to be no restrictions on the number of dealers, the system is entirely open-ended and potentially presents no restriction whatsoever on the trade. Dealers wishing to export more than the quota for any individual species have only to set up a second nominally different dealership and thus acquire a further full export quota.

As may be expected, the trappers in the field make very little out of the trade. A trapper can expect a profit of about Shs 2,000 or £6.60 for 200 birds, the catching of which probably takes him four weeks. The big profits are made by the exporters in Dar es Salaam and Arusha and the importers in the receiving countries. There is also some evidence of exporters defrauding the Government of Tanzania of foreign exchange.

IMPORT BANS

Earlier this year a joint campaign was launched by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Environmental Investigation Agency to ban the import of wild caught birds into the EEC. The USA has already decided to phase out all imports of wild caught birds. As a result of concerns about the current population status of Fischer's Lovebirds, the CITES EEC Committee imposed a temporary ban on the import into EEC countries of these birds on January 16th 1991. Many airlines (including KLM and BA but not Egypt Air and Air Tanzania) have banned the carrying of wild caught birds. There is also currently a MAFF imposed ban on all bird imports into Britain from Tanzania. A consignment of Tanzanian birds in 1990 was found to contain Newcastle Disease and this ban will continue until the Tanzanian veterinary authorities satisfy the British that their procedures are adequate.

Zul Bhatia

THE ECONOMIC PROSPECTS OF ZANZIBAR

The islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, on account of their geographical location off-shore and their differences of history and ecology, their economic performance and their growth prospects, differ somewhat from those of the mainland. Zanzibar has a population many times as dense as the mainland outside Dar es Salaam, that in Pemba being 40% greater even than Unguja. Population growth is now believed to be running at about 3% overall, a rate of growth greater in Unguja than in Pemba. Today the islands are estimated to have a joint population of 680,000 and an average population density of 260 per square kilometre. Zanzibar does not suffer from the problems of sheer distance which seriously affect economic activity on the mainland. On the other hand, for historical reasons, the economy of Zanzibar depends substantially on a single export crop, cloves, the export of which is still responsible for 90% of Zanzibar's foreign exchange earnings.

In the sixties the export of cloves, of which Pemba was the main source, earned Zanzibar a healthy foreign exchange balance. But times have changed. Zanzibar has lost its near monopoly advantage and in common with other tropical export crops the price of cloves in world markets has fallen drastically. The volume of export sales fell from 10,800 tonnes in 1973 to 3,510 in 1990. At the beginning of the eighties cloves were selling at \$3,000 per tonne, but by the end of the decade the price had fallen to \$2,000 per tonne.

This state of affairs has been reflected in the unfavourable balance of trade that has arisen since 1986 with a deficit of Shs.859.17 million, rising to Shs.4,037.98 million in 1990. The disastrous effect on the balance of payments has severely constricted the country's ability to import food, medicines, raw materials, machinery and other necessary items and has only been mitigated by foreign import support estimated to amount to Shs 9,294 million over a period of 5 years, rising from Shs.692.4 million in 1986 to Shs 4,942.24 in 1990. No country, certainly not Zanzibar, welcomes this degree of economic dependency.

Zanzibar's trade with the mainland of Tanzania has, on the other hand, been increasing in recent years. From a deficit of Shs 48 million in 1987, trade went into a surplus of Shs 689.7 million in 1990. This favourable trade relationship, if continued, will help to ease the liquidity problems that have encumbered the Zanzibar economy in recent years. Moreover, as the mainland economy develops, the range of products for which Zanzibar will be able to look to the mainland will gradually increase. The maintenance of the surplus is therefore crucial for Zanzibar. One way in which it can be maintained is through a reduction of food imports from mainland Tanzania by increasing local production. A policy along these lines is well in hand, but in view of rate of population increase, it is by no means easy to achieve results.

The rising population growth and falling gross domestic product during the eighties resulted in a marked fall in the standard of living in monetary terms. In 1976 the average GDP per head was in the region of Shs 2,240, falling to Shs 1,188 in 1989. Over the same period the

contribution of agriculture to the GDP fell from Shs 572 million in 1976 to Shs 384 million in 1989. The inhabitants of Pemba are especially vulnerable. Near complete dependance on cloves exposes them to a real risk of hunger when the harvest is poor and the dominance of cloves in the economy of Pemba acts as a disincentive for private investment on the Island.

As in mainland Tanzania, the solution to the foreign exchange problem lies mainly in the Islands' ability to diversify exports. This will call for unremitting effort over a substantial period of time. The present scope accorded to private enterprises will help to stimulate non-traditional exports by providing room for initiative, but it would be misleading to suggest that such enterprises can become a major factor in Zanzibar's foreign trade in the short term. Meantime, the Zanzibar Government is pressing for increased food production within the short term. With the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency in food, the Government has launched a programme called "Mtakula", which has already shown some results. The programme includes diversification into such products as cardamom, red pepper and other agricultural items for export. In the industrial field, current plans provide that any expansion and any new enterprises are designed to reduce reliance on imports. At the same time the Presidential Commission of Enquiry into the Monetary and Banking System of Tanzania has included within the scope of its recommendations the Zanzibar People's Bank and measures to alter its status and its efficiency are under consideration.

The Plan for Economic Revival in Zanzibar of 1988 resembles in broad outline measures now being taken on the mainland. The budget for 1988/89 showed savings of 5.4% in comparison with the previous year; subsidies were removed from foodstuffs such as rice, sugar and wheat flour; there has been a reduction in government employment brought about by retirement and the control of new appointments; banking services are being extended by opening branches throughout Unguja and Pemba; new impetus is being given to a law of 1986, which aims at stimulating the activities of domestic and foreign companies; and a study is being made of such matters as a free port, an export processing zone, off-shore investment and banking and ship registration. Following a relaxation of trade regulations, substantial benefits have been recorded, including a growth of activity year by year among individual traders.

Government plans give careful attention to measures designed to mitigate the adverse effects of structural adjustment and provision has been made for investment in the economic and social infrastructure. An interesting component of social policy is the attention that is given to widening the productive opportunities open to women and also the attempt made to harness for productive purposes the energies of young people. An independent foundation known as Mfuko wa Kujitegemea has been established under the Land Perpetual Succession Act to collect funds from all manner of voluntary sources for the purpose of providing soft loans for promotion of productive enterprises. Priority is given to unemployed men, women and young people, to the development of the informal sector and to assisting the handicapped and the underprivileged.

J. Roger Carter

50 YEARS AGO

The following news items are taken from issues of the Tanganyika Standard in the first three months of 1942:

MASAI MUNIFICENCE

Following on an agreement reached between the government and Masai elders at the Kiama or Annual Council Meeting held in August 1940 the Masai are subscribing 6,000 cattle (1% of the 600,000 total) each year for the duration of the war. The cattle are sold to Liebig's Cannery in Kenya and the proceeds are then divided into three equal parts: 1) a contribution to Britain for the purchase of armaments; 2) investment in interest-free War Loan; and, 3) used for the development of Masailand.

ODE TO MASIKA

Extracts from a letter to the editor (with apologies to Keats) from reader H.P Griffiths (March 1942):

Season of mists and multi-mouldiness;
Close bosom friend of March's moist monsoon;
Conspiring with her how to cause distress;
By washaways and floods, a doubtful boon;
To warp and swell our doors and rust the keys;
To fill with Tembo each palm tree flower;
And stimulate each fungus long and dark;
And rapid spreading weeds and grasses rank;
Where are the songs of summer? Where are they?
Think not of them - thou hast thy music too;
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying days;
Touch Msasani beach with rosy hue;
Then in a baleful choir mosquitoes hum;
And would-be travellers mourn with grumbling tune;
The boggy, slushy roads, now closed till June;
The thunder rolls; torrential showers come.

NEED FOR RUBBER

All of us must know the calamities which have fallen in the Far East (collapse of British forces in rubber-rich Malaya,

fighting in the Dutch East Indies) wrote Mr Malcolm Ross of Tanga in response to an urgent appeal by the Director of Agriculture for owners to clear the land in derelict Ceara rubber plantations in Tanga and Eastern provinces so that tappers can get to the trees. The Agricultural Department said that tapping 'needs no great skill and is well within the capabilities of the average African once the method has been demonstrated to him'.

Mr Ross went on to describe the rubber boom in Tanganyika in 1910-12 when as much as Shs 8/- per pound was paid for best quality rubber in London. The Germans had been planting up every available spot with Ceara rubber and there were over 50 plantations in Tanga district alone although the land was often entirely unsuitable. But by 1914 there had been a slump and rubber had fallen to Shs 1.2 per lb. The majority of the German planters would have become bankrupt but for the First Great War and when the Germans were eventually defeated in Tanganyika and the plantations were taken over by the British authorities, plantations were rarely worked. Later, sisal was planted instead.

POLITICAL CHANGE - THE LATEST

Things are changing politically in Tanzania just as they are in almost all other African countries. Once famous names have come back into the limelight - Fundikira, Kambona, Hamad - during recent weeks and new names like Mapalala and Marando, and, dramatically, after his massive election victory, Zambia's new President Frederick Chiluba, who said, during an official visit to Dar es Salaam: "I am not here on a mission to propagate my country's style of democracy".

The pressures on the Presidential Commission on Political Change (Bulletin No 40) whose work is now drawing towards its end, must be very great indeed. There remains a wide divergence of view between those wanting Tanzania to become a multi-party state and those wishing to preserve the one-party status quo. What is more, the advocates of the multi-party system have also begun to show divergences of view amongst themselves.

A 'Steering Committee for a Seminar on the Course of Transition to Multi-Party Democracy' had been held in Dar es Salaam on June 10th. It was chaired by Tanzania's one-time Justice Minister Abdullah Fundikira and included Mr James Mapalala (Vice-Chairman) and Advocate Mabere Marando. Mr Mapalala is said to have been several times detained in the past on account of dissident ideas. The result of the seminar was the formation of a 'National Committee for Constitutional Reform' (NRC).

In August the Dar es Salaam 'Business Times' reported that former Foreign Minister Oscar Kambona, who had also been

campaigning for a multi-party system, had been trading acrimonious accusations against Chief Fundikira while they had been in America fund raising. Fundikira was said to have told Kambona, who has lived in Britain for many years, that he was out of touch with the current situation in Tanzania.

On September 6th the 'Business Times' reported on its front page that 27 people had been arrested for an unlawful demonstration the day before. They were arrested after marching on the Ministry of Home Affairs in support of a new political group entitled 'Chama Cha Wananchi' (Party of the People) said to be led by 'civil rights campaigner' James Mapalala. The Minister for Home Affairs was later quoted as saying that he highly regretted this new situation in which a few people deliberately disobeyed laws and regulations laid down by Parliament. The 27 people, who were held on remand, then apparently went on hunger strike but it is believed that they were subsequently released.

As the great debate on Tanzania's future constitution continued around the country, Chief Fundikira, who had, in the meantime, been removed as Chairman of the NRRRC, decided not to wait for the conclusions of the Presidential Commission and presented, on November 1st, an application for the registration of a new 'Union for Multi-Party Democracy (UMD)'.

Next came the announced intention of the National Committee for Constitutional Reform (NCCR) to hold a demonstration in support of the landslide victory of the Zambian Movement for Multi-Party Democracy (MMD) in that country's elections. Immediately afterwards, on November 13th, the Tanzanian Government issued a statement saying that legal action would be taken against anyone participating in illegal demonstrations.

On November 24th Home Affairs Minister Augustine Mrema stated that Messrs Fundikira and Mapalala had been arrested two days earlier but had been released after questioning and search. The proposed demonstration had been called off in the wake of a warning by Mr Mrema that the government would flex its muscles to repel the illegal gathering. The Mnazi Mmoja grounds, where NCCR Chairman Marando was to have received the demonstrators, had been surrounded by police.

Subsequently it was revealed that Chief Fundikira's UMD Party wished to take the Inspector General of Police to court for his failure to return the Party's properties seized earlier after a police search.

On November 22nd former Chief Minister of Zanzibar, Seif Shariff Hamad who had been held on remand in prison for some two years in connection with attendance at illegal meetings, was released on bail of Shs 2.5 million. He complained of having been subjected to psychological rather than physical torture during his time in prison - Information for this article was extracted from the Daily News and Business Times - Editor.



GIVING UP MARXIST FANTASIES

'At Tanzania's National Museum in Dar es Salaam a mouldy exhibit depicts a 1958 speech by Julius Nyerere in which he proclaimed the birth of a new band of socialism'. So began an article in the October 10th issue of the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE which went on to state that, nearly three decades later, socialism in Africa is all but dead, a victim of economic failure, abuses of power and political oppression. And with it an age of ideology appears to be dying as well - an impassioned era of dreams and promise...when socialism, Marxism and other leftist beliefs largely fueled political thought and governance'.

'Today Africa is a far different place. Mr Nyerere now softly recommends that his people build a multiparty democracy on the wreckage of his socialist wasteland....

THE BAGHDAD OF EAST AFRICA

In a recent full-page travel article in the SUHDAY TIMES under the title 'Out of Slavery' Anthony Sattin recalled Stanley's description of Zanzibar as the 'Baghdad of East Africa'. The slave trade had guaranteed Zanzibar a place in our collective memory.... 'There is still the coronation portrait of Elizabeth II mouldering in the museum with the bones of a dodo and a milestone in town announcing 'London - 8,064 miles....' 'Later I came to the House of Wonders and the seaside gardens laid out to celebrate the silver jubilees of a British king and a Zanzibar sultan. This is a popular place at sunset...it was a likely place for a rendezvous or a chance meeting, and beside me, watching the sun go down, sat a Syrian trader, sipping sweet tea and smoking a chain of cigarettes. I asked him about his trade and he said that, as his ancestors would have done, he moved this and that between his own country, the Gulf and Zanzibar. The Syrian and I drank tea and watched the sunset; the Southern Cross in the enormous red sky, dolphins playing around the returning dhows, their sails barely arched before the slack breeze...it occurred to me that for thousands of years, from the ancient Egyptians to famous explorers and forgotten captains, people have looked out on similar views before leaving the safe harbour for the farthest flung parts of the world.

FAMILY PLANNING USER RATE

In a special report on German aid activities in Africa the September issue of NEW AFRICAN described 'mother and child health services' (MCH) in Zanzibar where there are now 88 MCH clinics. 85% of these offer family

planning services but the user-rate of such services in rural areas is only 3%. Research into the work of 'Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs)' showed that only 2% of those interviewed had attended primary school, only a third mentioned the importance of boiling their delivery equipment and 56% had never advised mothers on family planning. A training programme has now started.

A second article quoted the case of one woman in Bagamoyo who had been advised by a TBA, after her 5th child, to use a 'Pigi', one of the traditional contraceptive methods - a small piece of wood tied to a string and worn round the woman's waist. The woman soon had her 6th and 7th pregnancies!

CHEAP DRINKS

Continuing its comparison of costs of products in different countries the October 1991 issue of BUSINESS TRAVELLER revealed that the price of an alcoholic drink at a bar is only some \$2.41 in Tanzania which makes it the second cheapest place out of 36 countries quoted. Only South Africa had cheaper drinks. The most expensive drinks were found in Sweden (\$15.20). The November 1991 edition of the same publication dealt with the cost of a 'business dinner' and again Tanzania came out as one of the cheapest places in the world (\$33). Pakistan (\$15) was the cheapest and Japan far and away the most expensive (\$136).

AIDS: AFRICA'S FAMILY DISEASE

Under this heading NEWSWEEK in its issue of September 16, 1991 pointed out that in much of Africa AIDS is a family disease. Sub-Saharan Africa has roughly equal numbers of men and women infected with the HIV virus. One of the illustrations was of a Tanzanian with his 13 grandchildren all of whose parents were said to have died from AIDS.

DOING THE RIGHT THING

Britain's Overseas Aid Minister Lynda Chalker was the subject of a lengthy interview by Derek Ingram in the September 1991 issue of NEW AFRICAN. She commented on a number of places in the world where there had been problems with human rights (Sri Lanka, Somalia, Sudan) and was then asked, when it came to development, where in Africa was she most optimistic about. She answered that she was much more hopeful about Tanzania. President Mwinyi and his government were trying very hard to do the right thing. She was also hopeful about Ghana and Nigeria.

LUSHOTONIAN MEETING

The next 1942 - 1946 Lushotonian meeting will be held in Lugano, Southern Switzerland on August 22, 1992. Whoever attended Lushoto School during those years please try to make it and contact Versa and Ursi Engler, Via Cattedrale 15, 6900 Lugano, Switzerland (Phone... 91 23 36 79)

RECYCLING THE RUSSIANS

Under this heading the ECONOMIST in its August 24th issue wrote about recent changes in the Soviet embassy in Dar es Salaam. 'Once, this large embassy was stuffed with technicians, doctors and students of Marxism-Leninism. That was when the dictatorship of the proletariat... was beating back capitalist monopoly imperialism in the exploited Third World. These days Soviet diplomats have other concerns. "We are looking for profit making...and trying to set up joint ventures" said a spokesman. But profit making was proving harder than expected. The article went on to describe the ferry link for the forty miles between Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar ('but the Sea Express keeps on breaking down'), a transport company using 25 trucks imported from Minsk and a Latvian fishing boat with a few sailors'... 'Cost cutting will be the next stop. Some Western embassies have been approached about employing Soviet technical advisers, paid a tenth as much as western expatriates'.

'DANIEL'S DEN'

The DAILY TELEGRAPH published a lengthy obituary on Major-General Kenneth van der Spuy in its issue of August 17, 1991. The Major General, who had just died at the age of 99 and who, in his earlier years, had taken a prominent part in setting up the South African Air Force, was summoned to the Kilimanjaro area of Tanzania in 1916 and immediately 'found himself involved in a war on two fronts - one against the German enemy and the other against the climate, malarial mosquitoes and local wildlife. He operated from an airstrip which became known as 'Daniel's Den' because of the large number of lions that roamed around it.

REFORMS IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR

WORLD BANK NEWS in its November 21st issue stated that Tanzania has received an IDA Credit of US\$200 million to 'help in creating a financial system that operates on market oriented principles, is efficient in mobilising and allocating resources and fosters longer-term economic growth'.

"WE STILL SEE THE BONES OF THE BIRDS....."

"We still see the bones of the birds when we mine the phosphates" said geologist Iryana Mwambete, working with the Minjingu Phosphates Company some 100 kilometres south-west of Arusha and quoted in the October 1991 issue of NEW AFRICAN. The phosphate deposits are the remains of bird droppings and dead birds which lived in the area many, many years ago. There are 2.6 million tons of soft phosphates and 5.2 million tons of hard phosphates in the area which surrounds Lake Manyara. The Minjingu phosphates were discovered in 1956 by an International Atomic Energy team while searching for uranium and the mining plant was installed with Finnish help. But today, according to the article, the Swahili saying *Ng'ombe wa masikini hazai na skizaa huzaa dume* seems to be true of the Minjingu phosphates. The company employs 150 workers but had to stop

production for two months due to lack of market. The plant has a capacity to 100,000 tons per annum but since its inception in 1983 has been producing only 20,000 tons each year. In 1990 however, for the first time, some 3,000 tons were exported to Kenya and large, but not small farmers in Tanzania are now showing increased interest in using the fertiliser.

THE SERENGETI AND HOLLYWOOD

Hollywoods finest were said, by the DAILY TELEGRAPH in early September (in an article headed 'Animal Crackers') to be off on safari to the Serengeti and Kenya for charity. It was to be an unusual melange. Roger Moore, actress Anne Jackson, George Hamilton and 'that delicate conservationist Sylvester Stallone' were to be joined by veteran US newscaster Walter Cronkite, fashion designer Pierre Cardin, the Duke of Northumberland, conservationist Richard Leakey and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. The fee paying members of the party would each be shelling out £13,250.

CHICKENS ON THE PILL

Dar es Salaam's hospitals report that their shelves are being stripped bare of contraceptive pills according to the December 1991 issue of NEW AFRICAN. 'The story doing the rounds is that chickens grow faster if you add contraceptive pills to their food. According to distributors the pills are working wonders and every street now has its chicken and chip shop'.

TANZANIA IN THE NEWS

Tanzania, or at least its Zanzibar segment, achieved the unachievable as far as the British media are concerned on November 25th 1991. It found itself mentioned in huge full-page spreads in the SUN, DAILY MIRROR and STAR, repeatedly on virtually all channels of TV and radio, and, in more sober style in the TIMES, DAILY TELEGRAPH, INDEPENDENT, GUARDIAN, INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE and, no doubt, countless other newspapers and periodicals around the world. The occasion? The death (as a victim of AIDS) of Rock 'Superstar' Freddie Mercury. In every case considerable prominence was given to the fact that he had been born in Zanzibar under the name Frederick Bulsara. His father, who is of Persian origin, had been an accountant in the Zanzibar civil service.

PRESIDENT BANDA IN TANZANIA

AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in its October 11th issue reported on President Kamuzu Banda's first ever state visit to Tanzania from October 3 - 6 1991. 'While it did not result in the sort of rapprochement that followed Banda's triumphant appearances at Zimbabwe's 10th Anniversary celebrations in 1990 progress was made on transport links'.

APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL

Writing in a recent issue of MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL NEWS, Dr C.F. Curtis of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine stated that up to 70% of Tanzanian children have malaria parasites in their blood at any one time and people receive up to four malaria infective mosquito bites per night. He then went on to write about the highly successful use of insecticide-impregnated mosquito nets and, in Zanzibar, of a floating layer of expanded polystyrene beads to prevent mosquito breeding in pit latrines and cess pits.

144 INVESTMENT APPLICATIONS

The November 1991 NEWSLETTER of the TANZANIA/UK BUSINESS GROUP in London reported on a speech given to the group on October 10th by Mr George Kahama, Director General of the Tanzanian Investment Promotion Centre. Mr Kahama had said that the Centre had become one year old in July 1991. It had compiled an investment register with profiles of some 90 companies and projects and had instigated investment promotion programmes in such countries as Thailand, Malaysia, Ghana, Kenya and the UAE. So far, 144 investment applications had been received and processed to a value of some 400 million US dollars.

At the same meeting Mr Aziz Nasser was elected Chairman of the Group.

DROUGHT ON MOUNT KILIMANJARO

In its January 1992 issue NEW AFRICAN reported on the latest climb of Mount Kilimanjaro by Major-General Mrisho Sarakikya, Tanzania's Ambassador to Nigeria. The Maj-Gen has climbed the 19,340 ft mountain 30 times. But for the first time he found that the 'last water point', a stream high up on the mountain was dry. "There is serious prolonged drought on the mountain now" he said. Tanzanian hydrologists were quoted as saying that the cause of the reduced water flows was not climatic change but because of rapid run-off of water as the result of the loss of trees and plants. Last season the staple maize crop was destroyed in parts of Rombo district by rainwater rushing down the bare mountain side.

UN PRETRE 'UJAMAA'

URAFIKI TANZANIA, the journal of the Franco-Tanzanian Association in its issue No 49, wrote about the White Father Georges Paquet whom it described as a modest fifty year old full of drive. He was said to have two families: the White Fathers and the Tanzanian people - 'those rare people in Africa who resolve their problems without violence'.

The article went on: 'That which attaches George to the Tanzanians, of whom 30% are Christians, is their spirit of solidarity, the way in which they use body language to express themselves and their 'appetit religieux'. 'We have talked disparagingly about their traditional religion but these people do not love their traditional carvings any more than we love the statues in our churches' the article said.

REVIEWS . . . REVIEWS . . . reviews...

(In the last issue we inadvertently failed to mention that the book 'Persistent Principles Amidst Crisis' by H. Othman, I Bavu and M Okema (eds) was supplied by and is obtainable from Leishman and Taussig, 28 Westgate, Southwell, Notts NG25 0JH - Editor)

ZANZIBAR UNDER COLONIAL RULE edited by Abdul Sheriff and Ed Ferguson. Historical Association of Tanzania; James Currey; Heinemann, Kenya. 1991. £9.95.

Zanzibar Under Colonial Rule is a major work on this small Sultanate which has played such a pivotal role in the history of East Africa. Its 278 pages include eight studies on various aspects of Zanzibar's past economic and political development, an introduction and conclusion by Abdul Sherriff, 9 pages of bibliography plus extensive source notes following each chapter, 33 illustrations and a useful 8-page index.

Abdul Sheriff puts the major premise of the book right up front in his introduction, entitled 'A Materialist Approach to Zanzibar's History'.

He states "As Karl Marx pointed out, history cannot be reduced to the collection of 'self-explanatory' facts. To start with, facts are not 'given'; they are perceptions according to the specific philosophy of the observer, the recorder or the historian who select what each considers significant..... The task of the historian is then to interpret those truths, and this can be done consistently only through an explicit theory of social development".

Starting within this framework, the individual studies are: The Transition from Slavery by Jacques Depelchin; The Formation of a Colonial Economy by Ed Ferguson; The Struggle for Independence by B. D. Bowles; The Peasantry Under Imperialism by Abdul Sheriff; The Decline of the Landlords by J. R. Mlahagwa and A. J. Temu; The Contradictions of Merchant Capital by Zinnat Bader; The Development of a Colonial Working Class by George Hadjivayanis and Ed Ferguson, and finally, The 1964 Revolution: Lumpen or Vanguard? by Abdulrahman Babu.

Not all of the writers are equally successful. The first study, Jacques Depelchin's The Transition from Slavery, places much emphasis on fitting slavery into the context of historical materialism and argues "What is determinant in relations of production is the class

position and not the ethnic origin". Things do get better however. Bowles' chapter, The Struggle for Independence, is particularly well balanced and informative. Indeed, if the reader can disregard the ideological cant which pervades the opening and closing paragraphs of several of the chapters, there is a wealth of facts and interesting documentation fairly evenly distributed throughout the rest of the book. One needs to be a discerning reader however and alert to the occasions when the conspiratorial theory of history is given undue license. In general, the research based on East African sources is impressive. There are, justifiably, few comments on US relations with Zanzibar during the colonial period but those there are suffer from limited and ideologically selective sourcing.

The final chapter, by Abdulrahman Babu, deserves separate mention. The crucial events surrounding the 1964 revolution, in which Babu was a major participant, merit a much more extensive and detailed accounting. He could, if he wished, offer many more important personal insights than he provides here. Babu's contribution is noteworthy for the degree to which it remains ideologically consistent with his views of the early 1960's. The broad range of international experience he has had since that time seems to have changed his thinking surprisingly little. In light of recent events Babu's paean of praise for the militant socialism typified by the Zanzibar revolution now rings hollow, like a voice out of a distant epoch.

Dale M Provenmire

THE ECONOMIC CRISIS, RECOVERY PROGRAMMES AND LABOUR IN TANZANIA. Paschal B. Mhiyo. Labour, Capital and Society 23:1. 1990

This 28-page paper is very revealing indeed. It would be better entitled 'Survival Strategies of Tanzania's Urban Workers' in the face of the economic crisis of the 1980's. It illustrates in down-to-earth language the remarkable degree of initiative shown by Tanzanians in trying to feed their families on wages which were totally inadequate. The survey was conducted among 540 workers in six Dar es Salaam enterprises in 1987-88.

These are some of the survival strategies the paper describes:

- a) aggressive search for work; every member of the family was expected to look for something to do in order to earn something;
- b) organised afternoon absences from work; 'job caretakers' would perform double roles so that one could seek other part-time employment;
- c) use of children to sell food to better-off children at school;
- d) use of breaks at work for informal work such as hair-

dressings, shoe shining; bicycle repairing etc;
e) combining official and private duties; for example, secretaries doing private work during office hours;
f) use by drivers of enterprise cars as 'pirate taxis;
g) diversion of the enterprises' clientele into private contractual arrangements by, for example, those engaged in medical, technical and legal work;
h) dependence on second-hand commodities - a 'reappreciation' syndrome under which nothing grows too old to be bought;
i) the 'costume hire' phenomenon; as few women could afford to buy expensive clothes they would hire them on a weekly or monthly basis; middle class women 'can make a fortune on this phenomenon' the writer reports;
j) acceptance of indeptedness as a way of life;
k) mutual aid through wage pooling and the setting up of hardship funds

Many of the subterfuges referred to above are not confined to Tanzania of course but the paper then goes on further to describe also the changing nutritional, housing and transport patterns and even changes in mannerisms as employers and employees struggle to cope with the economic crisis.

Finally the author discusses the psychological and emotional consequences of all this. 81% of the interviewees said that they were worried about money and food all the time. Hardly surprisingly there was evidence of psychological exhaustion and a great deal of 'withdrawal' and apathy both at work and at home - the latter being particularly serious.

In his conclusions the writer emphasises the number of external factors (eg: white elephant projects) which had caused the crisis and how the workers, who had worked without complaint during this period and never staged any major protest or strike should not be made to bear the biggest portion of the blame - DRB.

WHOSE TREES? A PEOPLE'S VIEW OF FORESTRY AID. Tanzanian Section - Learning from the Past? Christopher Mwalubandu, Anthony Ngaiza et al. Panos. 1991. £ 7.95.

The first part of this 40-page report, written in a journalistic style, describes a classical sequence of mismanagement in a tropical forest, but with a difference.

In 1977 aid from the Finnish organisation FINNIDA was supplied to the parastatal company Sikh Saw Mills (SSM) for heavy logging equipment and management to exploit a valuable timber resource in the East

Usambara Forest Reserves. Although consultants Jaakko Poyry and EKONO were responsible for the inventory of utilisable timber and the monitoring of operations there were no proper controls enforced and no plans for restocking. Encroachment of the forest areas by land-hungry farmers increased as a result, and cultivation of unsuitable slopes and unsuitable crops (cardamom) together with the construction of logging roads and heavy equipment on them, led to erosion and the silting of streams. All this affected the water supply for populations downstream, including Tanga, and caused irreversible destruction, not only to forest soils, but also to fauna and flora, some of which were unique to the Usambaras.

And the difference? In 1985, as a result of international criticism (the little African Violet played its part), FINNIDA were shamed into funding a survey to establish the exact species distribution in the area. This in turn produced the Amani Forestry Inventory and Management Plan (AFIMP) and in the following year SSM were stopped logging in the Usambara mountains. In 1988 FINNIDA started discussions on the East Usambara Catchment Forest Project (EUCF) which had as its aims: 'the maintenance of essential ecological processes and biological resources for the people of Tanga region and the international community' and 'to allow the utilisation of forest related products by the local communities in a rational and sustainable manner'. FINNIDA was prepared to underwrite the project to the tune of US\$23 million, with the Tanzanian Government contributing the salaries of their staff involved.

So far so good, but the second half of the report is taken up with describing the 'can of worms' that FINNIDA found themselves holding when trying to implement these very commendable objectives. In fact, it is not clear whether the new project had actually started work by the time the report went to press in 1991. The complications are too varied for comprehensive summary here but some of the main ones are:

- the villagers' dependence on the crops and produce of the forest for their very meagre livelihood, and their demands (with the women's demands presented separately) to be involved in the detailed planning;
- the governments' concern that a valuable timber resource should not be wasted, their need for the revenue and the pit sawers' need for employment;
- the complications of surveying, demarcating and legislating for the Nature Reserves, Buffer Zones, Forest Reserves, Water Catchment Areas and Public Lands;
- the danger of duplication of effort and rivalry with a pilot project which has already worked with some success. This is the East Usambara Agricultural Development and Conservation Project, but it is generally known as the IUCN project (International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources);
- accusations of lack of communication between the various parties concerned.

This is a very worthwhile report which pulls no punches on either

side. The authors recognise the urgent need for a project like EUCF to be started now in order to reverse the deforestation of the Usambaras, but at the same time they ask the question 'Conservation for Whom?' with the quote from an old man - "You cannot think about conserving genetic resources when you have an empty stomach". Though weighted on the side of the aid receiver, this report should be required reading for all those involved in the identification and appraisal of forestry and conservation projects in the Third World.

F. S. Dorward

A HISTORY OF AFRICAN ARCHAEOLOGY. P Robertshaw (Ed). James Currey. 1990. £15.95 (paperback)

Eighteen authors contribute to this wide-ranging book, whose chapters cover regions, broad periods, personal memoirs and the specific approaches to African archaeology. A valuable compendium of views on the subject it will undoubtedly be an important reference book for years to come.

But, in spite of Tanzania attracting more professional archaeological interest than many African countries, there are regrettably few references to Tanzania in this book. What it does do is to look at the trends in archaeological theory and practice and how they affect work in East Africa. There are also passing references to Tanzanian rock art. Peter Schmidt's work in Buhaya in north-west Tanzania is discussed at greater length, as it throws light upon the relationship between oral traditions and the archaeological record.

Mortimer Wheeler once said that archaeological research in Tanzania should move from the known Swahili sites on the coast to the unknown interior of the country. Certainly Neville Chittick's work at Kilwa reflected a lack of interest in the interior. Chittick believed that the coastal settlements were founded by colonists from the Persian Gulf and were seaward-facing in outlook. This emphasis has recently changed. Archaeologists such as James de V Allen and Mark Horton argue for these settlements having indigenous African roots which were later islamised to gain access to the burgeoning Indian Ocean trade of the ninth century AD.

According to Robertshaw archaeology remains a low priority for the Tanzanian government. Only two Tanzanians held doctorates in the subject in 1986, one in the National Museum, the other in Antiquities. The subject relies highly on foreign funding, taught only as a branch of the history department at the University of Dar es Salaam. These links with the history department mean that Tanzanian archaeology now focusses on the later prehistory, with its links with oral traditions and history rather than the archaeology of early mankind. This relative disinterest is in contrast with the international importance of such sites as Olduvai gorge which have become a symbol of considerable national pride, known as the cradle of mankind, to most households nationwide with access to education.

The weakness of this compendium is that it is strongly focussed on

personalities, many continuing to operate in the field. Contemporary politics in archaeology, which is especially relevant to working in Tanzania, is consciously avoided. Where, why and how excavations have obtained funding and research clearance in Tanzania at present is very much linked with domestic politics. The chapters in Robertshaw's book avoid such crucial issues, thereby giving an incomplete picture.

Alex Vines

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THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY CARVED DOORS OF THE EAST AFRICAN COAST. Judith Aldrick. Azania. British Institute in Eastern Africa. Vol XXV. 1990. pages 1-20.

This article summarises the findings of research (which included the compilation of a photographic and descriptive catalogue of 100 doors in Zanzibar's Stone Town) submitted to the University of Durham in 1998 for a M. Litt thesis.

The carved doors along the coast fall into several distinct styles, varying according to regional preferences, stylistic developments, status and prosperity. These doors can be catalogued into a rough dating sequence. Aldrick divides the doors into eight different styles, each clearly showing differences in construction method and in the details of their design and ornamentation.

Her Omani, Unframed, Gujarati and Zanzibar-style doors are found in Tanzania. The earliest dateable Omani style door comes from the gereza at Kilwa Kisiwani, with a date of 1807 or 1815. The doors' styles develop variations through time which help to create a workable stylistic chronology for the nineteenth century. The stylistic origins of this type of door are found in the Persian Gulf.

Both Gujarati and Zanzibar-style doors are predominantly found in Zanzibar town. Originally imported from India, especially from Bombay, the Zanzibar style seems to have become popular because it was encouraged by the Sultans of Zanzibar in the 1880's.

The carved doors of the region also reflect changing trade patterns and prosperity. By the mid-nineteenth century the artistic influence of Yemen and the Red Sea declined as that of the Gulf and India grew. This period of prospering economy along the East African coast was reflected in the investment of the wealthy merchants in elaborate carved doors and new styles.

Alex Vines.

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PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION PROGRAMMES AND THE DILEMMA OF RURAL LEADERSHIP
IN TANZANIA by Dr Hassan Omari Kaya.

This stimulating study covering a wide range of issues on the present Tanzania's rural development situation is an attempt by the author to highlight how the socio-economic and political structures of a country have a direct bearing on the level and quality of People's Participation Programmes and Projects. The book starts with a detailed presentation of the elements which distinguish the Concept of People's Participation Programmes from other rural development strategies. It then analyses in a stimulating way how the existing socio-economic and political structures in Tanzania suppress genuine rural development from below.

The issues handled include: the controversy on rural inequalities and the Women Question in Tanzania; limitations of the new local governments and rural marketing system including the new cooperative unions under the Economic Recovery Programme. The study is an indispensable document for all those who have followed the trend of events in Tanzania since the declaration of her socialist orientated policies and for those interested in the debate on how the rural masses in the developing countries can become a solution for their own betterment.

102 pages; paperback; Price DM 17, £6.00 ISBN 3 - 9802071 - 0 -2

PENETRATION AND PROTEST IN TANZANIA. Isaria N Kimambo. James Currey/Tanzania Publishing House/Heinemann Kenya/Ohio University Press. 1991. £9.95. (Cloth £25.00)

It is convenient to summarise what this book is about. The first chapter 'The Nature of Penetration: An Overview' explains that "we know that the penetration of the capitalist trading system...was the main catalyst" and "from the second half of the nineteenth century to the end of the colonial period, the Pare people were in a continuous struggle for survival against the exploitive force of capitalism".

The author describes Long-distance Trade, Imperialist Penetration, Peripheries of two distinct areas (North and South Pare) 1891-1928, Pare (Same) District 1928-47, including the Protests, Restoration of

Production 1948-53 and Planning for Faster Capitalist Development 1953-60. He concludes that "the colonial system had successfully created a 'tribal' unit for its own purpose".

From the piece on the back cover of the book you will also read that "These partial changes destroyed the Pare's balanced subsistence structure" and "The colonial government tried to reverse the effects of the revolt without providing the kind of transformation desired by the peasants".

As I was partly brought up in the "1066 and All That" historical school, it seems to me that the author clearly believes that Imperialism/Colonialism was BAD. It is not quite as clear whether capitalism was GOOD or BAD or, perhaps like the curate's egg, good in parts.

This reminds me of Humpty Dumpty - "when I use a word it means just what I choose it to mean - neither more nor less". Could the author explain what 'peasantisation' means? Does 'penetration' mean complete force or only those parts he does not like?

To pursue this Imperialism/Colonialism matter it is useful to look at Paulo Mashambo, a non-violent leader during the MBIRU Popular Protest 1944-47, mainly about tax (a subject not unknown in England in 1991!) On page 102 we read "I memorised a lot of Bible verses which enabled me to find solutions to different problems... The Germans had a just rule. They could not allow loopholes... The Germans would punish the guilty but the British would free the guilty and punish the innocent". It would have been interesting to get his biblical views on the similarities between the problems of the pre-capitalist Pare people and those of the garden of Eden; also between the Pare tribe and the wretched Ishmaelites who very rarely got anything right.

The whole chapter on Mbiru is important whether you agree or not with the authors' view that "one can consider the action taken by the Pare peasants to have succeeded in achieving the intended results". However, some younger Pare people still consider that the tough action taken by the women in Usangi as the most heroic part of the protest. Is this perhaps why most of the illustrations in the book contain women and their traditional pots? (Apparently they did not think much of the modern wheel).

Less contentious are the Restoration Strategies 1947-53 described in chapter seven. They cover Local Government Reforms, Education as a Mobilising Tool including the Literacy Campaign, Community Development, Formal Education, Public Works especially Roads, Women's Clubs and perhaps most important, Agricultural Production. These are covered in some detail and at least part are described as the Golden Years. But lest some should become too uppity, the author concludes "The colonialists achieved in this short period more than was planned - at minimal cost to themselves. It was a great achievement on the part of the Pare peasants".

Equally interesting is the chapter dealing with Attempts to Plan for Development 1953-60 which includes the main points of the Smithyman (DC Pare) 5-Year Plan. This contained plans for Social Development,

Development of Middle Pare, Road Systems and Surveys particularly irrigation soils, afforestation and the Pare Basin. Not surprisingly this ambitious plan was not entirely successful. For example, the local authority's effort to mechanise agriculture by buying a tractor, was disastrous. Worse still, they had to hire a capitalist contractor to do the job. The plan memorandum however was "a valuable document" says the author, but he adds that attempted implementation illustrates "the nature of peripheral capitalism under imperialism" if you can understand what this means.

There is much more in this book than I have covered in this review. Particularly one should have mentioned the crucial land shortage and over population, the dubious cooperatives, the sisal plantations, labour, the role of the Christian missions (not much is said about Islam) and so on.

The book has reminded me of some correspondence I had with Elspeth Huxley in which she wrote - "The problems of Africa are insoluble. That is why it is so fascinating". So, although I cannot agree with Professor Kimambo's opinions nor do I like his repetitive methodology, I admire his diligent research and references and I certainly enjoyed the nostalgia. I hope we will get another astringent book entitled perhaps "Freedom: Fantasy and Fact".

B.J.J. Stubbings

LINGUISTIC STUDY OF THE NOVEL. S.A.K. Mlacha. Verlag Schreiber Publishers. Berlin. 1991.

This book examines lexical and grammatical patterning in Euphrase Kezilahabi's 1975 novel *Dunia Uwanja wa Fujo* and the 1974 *Kichwa Maji*.

In the first three chapters the author interprets frequency-counts of various semantically-defined groups of verbs, and discusses how the writer uses these to portray the themes and characters of *Dunia Uwanja wa Fujo* and how they contribute to the structure of the novel. The second half of the book explores the functions, both organisational and stylistic, of time and location 'relaters' (adverbials with a connective function in the narrative) and conjunctions. As in Chapters 1 - 3, frequency tables provide a point of departure for the analysis of patterns of use of particular linguistic items and the interpretation of their contribution to the novelist's purposes and overall style.

Much of the analysis is insightful and thought-provoking, and ought to provide interesting material for students of Swahili language and literature. The discussion raises a number of questions. In discussing the high frequency verb -fanya ('Verbs of voluntary action') Mlacha points out its importance in contributing to the theme of action, arising out of individual free will, which changes situations and feelings. He illustrates the latter with 'Yote haya yalimfanya Anastasia asikitike badala ya furahi' ('All these made Anastasia sorrowful rather than joyful'). Examples of this kind, i.e. -fanya+verb, help to account for the relatively high incidence of

-fanya, but this structure is only one of the ways in which coercion/causation is expressed in Swahili. Mlacha does not mention causative verbs, nor address the question of Kezilahabi's choice of -fanya+verb e.g. 'fanya...asikitike' rather than verb with causative suffix e.g. '-sikitisha'. If use is made of causative verbs do they not also, like -fanya, contribute to the action and conflict themes discussed on pp 18 - 19?

Another query concerns the second part of the book. In the discussion (pp 59 - 66) of 'Time Relaters of Subsequence' e.g. 'baada', 'halafu', there is no mention of -ka- in the verb group as a marker of subsequence. Is this because Kezilahabi does not use this structure to mark the chaining of events or because the computer used for the frequency-count is not sensitive to bound morphemes? (It would also account for the lack of attention paid to the causative verb-suffix noted above). If, indeed, Kezilahabi makes little or no use of -ka- it would have been useful to have had a comment on this.

It seems a pity to end on a carping note when so much valuable information is presented in this book. It is extremely irritating to read, not only because it is littered with a very large number of typographical errors, but because there are also serious shortcomings in the layout. For example, in Chapter 1, a group of verbs - 'Verbs of Intellect' - is presented and sub-divided into five sub-groups labelled A - E; with no new sub-heading of any kind, the text (p-16) goes from sub-group E to a completely new major verb-group - 'Verbs of Volition'. Four sub-groups of volition verbs are listed, labelled G - J, at which point the reader turns back to hunt for sub-group F. Most of the Figures (actually frequency tables) are un-numbered; the third one in the book (pp 27-28) does get numbered - but, somewhat mysteriously - as 6.3. The heading for the 'Place Definers' frequency table is attached to the wrong table, i.e. on p 88 instead of p 76. It is a great pity that the standard of proof-reading falls far below that of much of the content.

Joan Russell

JUST YOUR CUP OF TEA. BROOKE BOND IN MUFINDI. 1940-1990. Printed by Peramiho Printing Press.

Tom Brazier, Chairman of Brooke Bond Estates Group, expresses the hope in his Foreward that this 50th anniversary collection of stories will ensure that the achievements of all employees will not be forgotten. In fact such interesting technical and social history deserves a more comprehensive coverage than a mere 97-page paperback. Nevertheless, the ten authors involved have contributed 14 very well balanced short chapters which undoubtedly succeed in recreating for the reader a real flavour of the early days at Mufindi when life was both exciting and exacting.

The topics covered include the founding of the Mufindi Club in 1940, the Mufindi Rod and Gun Club in '62, the building of St John's Church which was dedicated by Archbishop Leonard Beecher in November

'60 and bird and plant life. In addition there is Colin Congdon's hilarious 'Nine Holes in Mufindi' which he wrote for an earlier issue of this Bulletin.

Quite rightly, the major area covered is the development of 2,388 acres of semi-derelict tea which Brooke Bond took over from the Custodian of Enemy Property after he had confiscated the German-owned tea estates which in total covered 30,000 acres. Bert Dale recalls that in 1940 yields of made tea were as low as 143 Kgs per hectare. Rehabilitation was slow due to the unavailability of fertilisers and to the shortage of labour caused by the competing demands of the sisal barons.

Recruiters went as far afield as Ukinga in the Livingstone Mountains, 150 miles away as the crow flies; this meant that many men were taking six days to walk to Mufindi and for much of their journey their path was through man-eater country. George Rushby, who finally ended the 10-year reign of terror of the Njombe man-eating lions, wrote that the official figure of 800 reported deaths could easily be doubled as many deaths went un-reported!

By 1962, with the heavier use of fertilisers, especially nitrogen, yields had risen to 760 kg/ha. About this time herbicides were introduced enabling the twin problems of couch grass control and a spiralling wages bill to be overcome. The next breakthrough came in '67 when Mike Carr conducted some very successful research into the water requirements of tea which resulted in a very substantial acreage being put under irrigation. This, combined with the use of compound fertilisers, gradually pushed up yields to reach a new peak of 2,500 kg/ha.

Like the line drawings (in Brooke Bond green), anecdotes have been nicely scattered through the text showing that there was always room in a busy life for humour and sport. In the former category I like the extract from the office archives which reads:

1.4.58. The Assistant Company Secretary sent out a circular urging managers to indent for their wild oats immediately. Some responded! In November the Assistant Company Secretary left.

On the sporting side I enjoyed picturing Bert Dale coming down from Nairobi in 1940 already determined to build a golf course, and in anticipation, bearing a precious cargo, in those wartime days, of six boxes of golf balls which he had winkled out of Craigs Sports House in Nairobi. The construction of the golf course was a labour of love with all the earth being moved by the headload. To fertilise the sites of the greens, ox dung was brought from Kinoga, 4 miles away, while the second green received exceptional treatment; it was ploughed in a bed of bat guano which was carted from caves near Mbeya 180 miles away!

All in all a delightful publication. If a pull-out map could have been inserted, so that some of the many place names could be located, this would have been an added bonus.

Geoffrey D. Wilkinson

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

ON SAFARI. IN THE STEPS OF BISHOP TREVOR HUDDLESTON. THE DIARY OF A JOURNEY TO MASASI. August/September 1991 by Eric James. Christian Action. £2.00.

A highly readable, very honest and lavishly illustrated 40-page booklet written by the person who is now preparing a biography of the Bishop and who was looking for some background on which to base its Masasi chapter (the Bishop was there from 1960 to 1968). Bishop Huddleston has indicated, however, that he does not want his biography to be published while he is still alive.

THE CHURCH IN THE AFRICAN CITY by Aylward Shorter. Geoffrey Chapman. 152p. £9.95. A useful, readable book, not only for its discussion of the church's urban mission but also for its discussion of urban life. Examples are given from the author's experiences while living in Tanzania and Kenya.

TANZANIAN JOURNAL OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES. Chief Editor - J.A. Ngasongwa. Development Studies Institute. Sokoine University of Agriculture. Vol 1. No 1. January 1991. Individuals \$10 per copy. Institutions \$20 each.

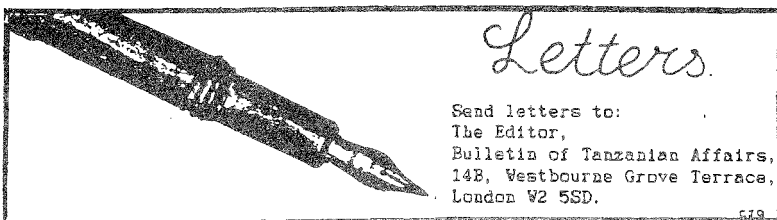
This ambitious first issue of a new publication contains 6 articles (on such subjects as the peasants, the story of community development in Tanzania and its present role, erosion hazard assessment, village afforestation and the psychology of property and work in Tanzania).

MONEY CREATION AND FINANCIAL LIBERALISATION IN A SOCIALIST BANKING SYSTEM: TANZANIA 1983-88. Paul Collier (Oxford Univ) and Jan Willem Gunning (Free Univ, Amsterdam). World Development. Vol 19. No 5. 1991. This highly technical 6-page article argues, *inter alia* that bank money used to finance the recurrent deficits of crop parastatals should properly be incorporated in government accounts and that there is a statistical equivalence between the total recurrent deficit so caused and the increase in the money supply.

RELIGIOUS CHANGE IN A HAYA VILLAGE, TANZANIA. Journal of Religion in Africa. Vol XX1. Fasc 1. February 1991.

THE WIDENING GYRE. THE TANZANIAN ONE-PARTY STATE AND POLICY TOWARDS RURAL COOPERATIVES by Oda van Cranenburgh. Eburon, Delft, Holland, 1990. 245pp. Paperback.

THE EAST AFRICAN EXPERIENCE IN INTEGRATION. Conrad N. Nkutu. African Economic Digest. 12 August 1991, pages 4-5. This article describes the collapse of the East African Community in 1977 and the reasons behind it. The article provides lessons which are highly topical as the heads of state of the three countries have now begun to talk seriously about reviving the community.



ANOTHER COLONIAL MYTH?

I was intrigued and puzzled by the reference in Dr Thomas' book review (Bulletin No 40) to Kiswahili being 'still' devalued in the last part of British rule. I would question the 'still', and indeed was not aware of it being devalued at all. At the time Kiswahili was the normal medium of instruction in primary schools; it was the language of the local and district courts, the language in which local bye-laws were framed (and subsequently translated into English for the benefit of a non-Swahili - speaking Judiciary and Legal Department), and was the language of the District Council debating chamber. It was incumbent on the expatriate officer to learn and use Kiswahili, not on the indigenous population to learn English.

This is not to say that there may not have been occasions on which pupils were punished for not speaking English. But this would have been for the purpose of improving English rather than devaluing Kiswahili in schools where English had become or was in the process of becoming - the medium of instruction, and, of course, the key to higher education. There was certainly no official policy of downgrading Kiswahili.

We seem to have another 'colonial myth'.

Dr Thomas also compared the teaching of Kiswahili with the teaching of Welsh. By way of comment may I add the following quotation from 'The Age of Empire' by E.J. Hobsbawm: 'The prohibition of the use of Welsh, or some local language or patois in the classroom, which left such traumatic traces in the memories of local scholars and intellectuals was due, not to some kind of totalitarian claims by the dominant state-nation, but almost certainly in the sincere belief that no education was possible except in the state language, and that the person who remained a monoglot would inevitably be handicapped as a citizen and in his or her professional prospects'.

Donald Barton

AN OASIS

.....The Bulletin remains an oasis of information in the middle of a British media desert.

Odhiambo Anacleto

USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

I much enjoyed the article in Bulletin No 39 by R. O. Williams Jnr. especially as I was privileged to be working alongside 'RO' in 48/49 in

Zanzibar. Ever since those days my copy of his book has always been near at hand for reference.

'Useful and Ornamental Plants of Zanzibar and Pemba' certainly merits a new edition because in many ways it provides a model layout which is especially helpful to the amateur. It opens with a very readable section on the structure and function of the different parts of plants and then goes on to list the 'Useful Plants' under headings which vary, for example, from the Cereals, Salads, Spices, Fruit, Nuts, Timbers, Medicinal plants, Fish poisons, Perfumes and Dyes to Water containers and Witchcraft plants.

The next section provides a cleverly devised simplified flora or systematic guide to the reader in the identification of Ornamental Trees and Plants and this leads on to the main body of the book which, in alphabetical order (by botanical name) provides a description of each species that includes most interesting observations on where they occur and, when appropriate, their local usage.

The book is profusely illustrated with excellent line drawings and photographs. Above all, it succeeds in giving the reader that rare feeling of being given a real insight into the economic and ornamental botany of the Spice Islands and the teamwork, both national and expatriate that went into its 497 pages of compelling reading.

Geoffrey Wilkinson

MEANWHILE, Tanzania's popular press has other concerns as indicated by this cutting from the front page of the 'Family Mirror':

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STOP PRESS

Tanzania ready for multiparty — Mwalimu

Mwalimu Nyerere has stated that Tanzania is ripe for political pluralism and has urged CCM Party leaders to initiate peaceful transition. He told journalists at his Msasani residence in Dar es Salaam that, although the majority of Tanzanians supported the CCM, there was a substantial minority which wanted the constitution changed to allow pluralism. He believed there were serious, patriotic people, some of them inside the CCM, who could form a viable opposition party once permission had been given. However, a sound opposition leadership was yet to emerge, he added - Sunday News.

THREE PARTIES NOT THIRTY

As we went to press the Kenya Television Network reported that Mwalimu Nyerere had urged multi-party supporters in Tanzania to form at least three opposition parties but not thirty as had been done in a number of African countries reverting to multi-partyism. Observers were said to believe that Nyerere's sentiments could lead to quick changes in sections of Tanzania's electoral laws to usher in multi-party democracy.

On December 23, 1991 a Reuter report from Dar es Salaam stated that President Ali Hassan Mwinyi was facing mounting pressure for political change in Tanzania and was almost certain to legalise opposition parties after the Presidential Commission on Political Change reports in March 1992.

The news item quoted a Western diplomat as saying that "They've already decided what the answer is and they are now writing the report to fit in with that". The item went on: 'The countdown to pluralism has sent the normally complacent CCM party into a frenzy of campaigning activity to recruit members and to raise funds for development projects.'

The views expressed by writers in the Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs are their own and do not necessarily represent the views of the Britain-Tanzania Society - Editor.

Readers wishing to learn about the Britain-Tanzania Society are requested to contact Mrs Jill Thompson, 60, Willetts Way, Petts Wood, Kent BR5 1QE.

The Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs is regularly listed in the International Current Awareness Services

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