

# Tanzanian Affairs

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## ELECTRICITY FROM GAS HAS ARRIVED

July 15 was a historic day in Tanzania. After some thirty years of planning and preparation, following a US \$260-million 'gas-to-electricity' project, involving the construction of a 225-km natural gas pipeline from Songo Songo Island in southern Tanzania to Dar es Salaam, the country finally began producing electric power from natural gas. The electricity is being produced at the Ubungo power station in Dar es Salaam.

"This milestone marks a huge step towards reducing our over-reliance on hydro-electric power, which has been so costly to the economy in recent years," Daniel Yona, Tanzania's Minister for Energy and Minerals, said. He welcomed the implementation of the project, saying it was coming as the country faced a serious shortage of energy. The 2003 water inflow into the Mtera reservoir, the most important reservoir in Tanzania's hydropower system, dropped to only 40% of the 60-year average and the water level had reached record lows.

Paul Kurnet, the Vice-President of Globeleq East Africa (the project's major shareholder) and Managing Director of Songas Ltd, the company conducting the project, said that the power plant would initially supply 75MW of gas-fired power, and a further 40MW within three months. The development would also provide water and electricity to the 40 villages along the pipeline from Kilwa where the gas is extracted.

Experts estimate that there are over 450 billion cubic feet of natural gas at Songo Songo Island, enough to last between 20 and 50 years. Recurrent droughts have had severe effects on the country's power supply during recent years. Blackouts and power rationing resulting from low water levels in hydroelectric dams have forced the state-run Tanzania Electric Supply Company Ltd (TANESCO) to rely on diesel-powered generators. Two-thirds, or 381MW, of Tanzania's installed capacity is hydro-powered. Less than 10% of Tanzania's population has access to electricity, with average per capita power consumption being 0.023MW. The vast majority of the population uses firewood for energy, a situation that endangers the country's forests -

*from the UN's IRIN Humanitarian Information Unit (which does not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations).*

SONGAS has also signed contracts with Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) and Twiga Cement Company (TCC) to sell a total of 10 million cubic feet of gas to them daily. TCC has spent \$1.1 million to convert its oil-powered system so that it can now use natural gas.

The *Guardian* has reported that at least 8,000 commuter buses (daladalas), city taxis and other buses have been earmarked for conversion to use natural gas so as to limit pollution. There is also a proposal to build a pipeline to Mombasa by 2006 to supply gas to neighbouring Kenya.

## TANZANIAN TERROR SUSPECT CAPTURED

Tanzanian Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani, a top al Qaeda terrorist suspect, one of the world's most wanted men with a \$25 million price on his head, was taken into custody in Pakistan on August 6th for his suspected role in the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in Dar es Salaam and Nairobi. He was arrested along with 13 others after a 14 hour gun battle with security forces in Gujarat, 110 miles southeast of Islamabad.

Ghailani's mother in Tanzania was quoted as saying that her son was a harmless, religious boy who had gone abroad to study six years earlier. "What I look forward to is my son getting a fair trial and that our (Tanzania) Government will ensure that my son is not tortured". The US Federal Bureau of Investigation had visited her house on several occasions over the last six years, ever since Ghailani left home, she said.

Ghailani goes by the nicknames 'Foopie' or *Fupi* and 'Ahmed the Tanzanian' - *see also 'Tanzania in the International Media' below - Editor.*

## THE RISE OF TELEVISION

*Jacob Knight writes:* In the past five years or so, the number of Tanzanians with televisions has risen at an amazing rate so that now, most 'middle class' urban Tanzanians own a TV. When I visited Mazengo Secondary School in Dodoma recently, I was told that nine out of the ten teachers have a TV.

In Dar-es-Salaam there are now seven terrestrial channels. The longest established, claiming to have 76% share of the viewers is ITV ([www.itv.co.tz](http://www.itv.co.tz)), owned by Reginald Mengi and the IPP media group ([www.ippmedia.com](http://www.ippmedia.com)) which broadcasts to the whole of Tanzania a mix of news (in Swahili and English), Swahili dramas, imported soaps and dramas from America, the UK, and South Africa, music videos (mostly Tanzanian these days) and an impressive selection of European football matches. There are also some children's programmes and imported cartoons. While the tone of the news programmes is quite well balanced, there is some evidence of bias. When I was there Reginald Mengi had donated some money to establish a school for Maasai girls in Monduli and about 10 minutes airtime was devoted to pictures of the girls at various celebrations on national news bulletins for several successive days in a fairly blatant act of self promotion.

ITV's sister channel (owned by Reginald Mengi's son) has recently been renamed from ITV2 to Channel 5 (East African TV). Aimed at the youth market, this broadcasts mostly music videos to major cities in Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya.

The second longest established TV station (ignoring state-run TV Zanzibar <http://www.tvz.co.tz/>) and the biggest competitor to ITV, is Channel 10, owned by the Africa Media Group. This group also broadcasts DarTV and CTN stations in Dar-es-Salaam.

Star TV is based in Mwanza ([www.startvtz.com](http://www.startvtz.com)) and broadcasts a mix of programs including some BBC and Voice of America news, although you need a satellite dish to receive it outside the main cities.

Finally, TV Taifa is the national TV channel, officially launched in 2000

though it has really only been widely available since last year. Tanzania was apparently the last county in the world to have a national TV channel, partly due to the late Julius Nyerere's reluctance - he viewed it as a waste of money and feared that it would divide the urban and rural populations, which indeed it has done. In rural villages there are very few TVs (not least due to a lack of mains electricity!), and people are much more reliant on radio.

I was shown round the ITV/Channel 5 studios in Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam by Robert Mmbando, a news coordinator (see cover photo). The equipment is not of a standard one would see at a BBC studio, but there are two air conditioned studios and powerful computers for digital video editing which are helping to make the output more and more professional.

The advertisements, mainly for beer, soap, toothpaste and AIDS awareness are also gradually improving in technical quality. The general view seems to be that South Africa is the leader, followed by Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda in that order. In the music field, the widely held view is that Tanzania has overtaken Kenya, and while many of the senior posts at ITV are currently occupied by Kenyans, Tanzanians are keen to get ahead in the TV field as well.

Music videos and televised beauty contests seem to have led to a significant relaxation in attitudes to modesty, with bikini clad women appearing quite regularly on TV, something which would have been unthinkable ten years ago. However, this attracts vocal criticism and opposition particularly from religious leaders. In response, the Aids awareness adverts have been 'toned down' from shocking messages about using condoms to a slogan: *Usione soo, sema nae kuhusu kusubiri, kuwa mwaminifu au kutumia kondom* (Don't be embarrassed - talk to each other about waiting, being faithful, or using a condom) as used in the current multi media campaign *Ishi!* (live!).

Like it or not, it seems that TV is here to stay in Tanzania.

## AS THE ELECTIONS APPROACH

The long-gestation process of the American electoral system is being emulated in Tanzania. Although the country's general election is more than a year away, hardly a day goes by without some new development on the political scene as parties and personalities prepare themselves for the struggle ahead. The following represents a very brief summary of what is being reported in the English language and Swahili press.

### THE NATIONAL PICTURE

On the mainland the political situation remains stable and largely peaceful. Most of the news is of internal strife amongst members of Tanzania's dozen or so opposition parties. Under intense pressure from these opposition parties the Government finally agreed in July that it was now appropriate to review the composition of the National Electoral Commission (NEC) to accommodate members from different political parties. Its new structure would be clarified when the Government presented before Parliament a 14th Constitutional Amendment Bill later this year - *Guardian*.

The chairman of the main opposition party, the Civic United Front (CUF) Prof. Ibrahim Lipumba, has said that the breach of laid down procedures and outright rigging of elections by the Government would not deter CUF from taking part because it had become accustomed to such actions. He said that, instead of boycotting the elections, his party would embark on voter education and the training of CUF representatives - *Mtanzania*.

As this issue of TA was due to go to the printers the Swahili press was speculating about reports that the CCM parties in Tanga and in Magu, Mwanza region were divided but this could not be confirmed. CCM has a remarkable record of unity over the years. Potential presidential candidates are, however, stepping up their efforts in the hope of attaining the ultimate prize.

There was a minor incident on June 16 when a rowdy gang attacked Prof. Lipumba while he was on a tour of Bukoba Urban constituency. He escaped unhurt, but several other people in his entourage were

injured and had to be hospitalised. He said that the personal effects and TShs 395,000/- belonging to one of those injured were stolen in the commotion. The police subsequently arrested six people - *Guardian*.

### ZANZIBAR

As always, the political situation in Zanzibar is much more boisterous but Speaker of the House of Representatives, Pandu Ameir Kificho, told a delegation of visiting UK MPs at the end of July that the Zanzibar House had been carrying out its affairs democratically. He said that representatives from both the ruling CCM and CUF had been working together democratically and harmoniously. He said the democratic spirit prevailed during debates in the House - *Guardian*.

A CUF spokesperson in Zanzibar has said that his party intended to form a coalition government if it won. It had promised to offer one of the highest posts to the current Isles President, Amani Karume. He said that a coalition government was the only option to heal the wounds of political tension brought about by CCM and CUF rivalry in the Isles. "We want to show our kindness. We'll form a coalition government, as we pledged, as that is the sure way of resolving the political problem in Zanzibar," he said, amid thunderous applause from CUF supporters. But Zanzibar CCM Chief Minister Shamsi Vuai Nahodha then ruled out any possibility of the formation of a government of national unity in the Isles. He told the seven MPs visiting from the UK that due to political disparity, there was no possibility that an opposition party would be able to implement the ruling party's policies. "Doing so would amount to killing itself politically," he added - *Guardian*.

Donor concerns over the misuse of financial aid for implementation of the peace accord or *Muafaka* in Zanzibar between the CCM and CUF have been vindicated. A three-man ad hoc committee's report has confirmed the misuse of funds in the procurement of vehicles by members of the Muafaka secretariat. On April 24th the former project manager of the Presidential Commission on the Accord, Mbarouk Omar Mohamed, was transferred to Zanzibar from Dar es Salaam and appeared in court to answer charges of embezzling some TShs 29 million of public and property. In May it was reported that Police had arrested Mohamed at

the Dar Es Salaam International Airport where he was about to board a Kenya Airways flight out of the country. - *Majira*.

A CUF spokesman claimed in June that soldiers were being moved to the CUF stronghold of Pemba ahead of the elections. "Ships arriving in Pemba are full of soldiers. Why send so many soldiers to Pemba while we are not in a state of war?" he queried. He challenged those claiming that CUF was a terrorist organisation to come up with concrete evidence to support their allegations that the opposition party was behind a spate of bombings that rocked Zanzibar a few months ago. In his speech during the Zanzibar Budget debate in the House of Representatives, CUF Shadow Finance Minister, Abass Muhunzi said the Government had not published a report on the bombing incidents. "People are wondering why the government has decided to remain mum on the Zanzibar bombings while a report on the State House fire has already been made public," he said - *Guardian*.

There have been a number of attacks on CCM party property including the CCM HQ in Kisiwandui and the CCM branch in Boma Kitope, the night before a planned rally. The Kitope area has many residents of mainland origin and they have been facing threats from CUF members warning them against registering as voters. At Kisiwandui on July 11 the attackers injured a senior official and damaged the official car of CCM Deputy Secretary-General Saleh Feruzi. Field Force Unit (FFU) officers guarding the building fired in the air to disperse the crowd. The procession was initially peaceful and traffic police officers posted in front and at the back were at hand to bolster security. However, the mood of the marchers changed abruptly when they reached the CCM building. The procession was meant to give support to a speech delivered by CUF Secretary-General Seif Shariff Hamad, shortly after his return from abroad - *Sunday Observer, Uhuru and Nipashe*.

CUF Secretary General Seif Shariff Hamad has been quoted in *Nipashe* as saying that some highly placed people were conspiring to arrest him and top CUF officials just before the elections. He also said that come what may he would win the Zanzibar presidency. The Zanzibar House of Representatives suspended CUF Chambani MP

Abbas Juma Mhunzi for defaming Zanzibar President Karume by alleging that oil prices in the Isles had been set according to state house instructions for the benefit of Zanzibar VIPs - *Majira*.

*As this issue of Tanzanian Affairs was being sent to the printers we received a copy of a letter from CUF MPs which accompanied a petition signed by 5,000 people, and has been sent to Secretary General of the United Nations Kofi Annan - Editor.*

*Amongst many allegations made in the letter were the following:*

'Under the *Muafaka* it was agreed to set up a new Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC) in which the Opposition will be represented, that a credible Permanent Voters' Register will be compiled, that the state-controlled media will give equitable coverage to all parties, that the Police and other state organs will be reformed to make them non-partisan and that the judiciary will be reformed to make it impartial and enhance its standing in the eyes of the public.....

With the elections only eighteen months away, the situation is becoming volatile:

- A number of substantive areas of the Accord such as the judicial reforms, police and state organs reform, publicly owned media reforms and reform of the ZEC Secretariat are yet to be implemented;
- The delayed Voters' Register has still to begin to be compiled;
- The Zanzibar Government has embarked on a major campaign to register people from Mainland Tanzania who have not been ordinarily resident in Zanzibar for a minimum of 10 years as the two parties had agreed;
- The Electoral Commission, which is dominated by the ruling CCM, is busy manoeuvring to redraw the electoral boundaries to favour the ruling party, trying to reduce the number of seats in Pemba, which is an Opposition stronghold, to Unguja where they hope to have better control;
- The Zanzibar Government is also busy beefing up its Special Defence and Security forces, employing only CCM members, and establishing their camps in marginal electoral constituencies to ensure the ruling party wins.'

The letter ended: 'Your Excellency, after Rwanda and some other calamities in Africa over the past decade, we hope that the international community, and especially the United Nations, will not be caught napping again. Zanzibar may be a small place, but even small people have their rights for which they can fight.'

### WHICH PARTY WILL WIN?

The results of a number of local council by-elections on the mainland on June 6 indicated that CCM should win the national elections next year with ease. CCM won almost all the seats. In Bariadi East, Mwanza Region, a stronghold of the opposition UDP, its candidate, John Cheyo, nicknamed *Bwana Mapesa*, himself the leader of the party, was narrowly defeated. The seat was formerly held by a former UDP MP but it fell vacant after the MP crossed back to CCM following some misunderstanding between him and John Cheyo. After the Returning Officer announced that the CCM had won, Cheyo accepted that his rival had defeated him. He was quoted as having said that he was returning to Dar es Salaam with a clean heart and without grudges even though there had been a few irritating electoral hitches here and there.

This Bariadi spirit however was lacking in Kilimanjaro Region where the ruling CCM also defeated the opposition by winning three council seats previously held by Augustine Mrema's Tanzania Labour Party (TLP). Here, when the returning officer announced the results, TLP immediately stated that it would challenge them in court. TLP alleged foul play by the National Electoral Commission alleging that the Commission officers had brought forged forms to the constituency in favour of CCM. Mrema accused the CCM of vote stealing. Mrema also took offence when another opposition party, CHADEMA, defeated TLP in one ward.

In Tanga CCM won 790 seats out of 821. The rest went to CUF (21), TLP (7), UDP (2) and CHADEMA (1) - *Uhuru*.

### WHO WILL BE PRESIDENT?

According to the Swahili press, a poll conducted by the Business Times and the Media Express companies, which involved 37,119 respondents, put Foreign Affairs Minister Jakaya Kikwete in the lead as the next President of Tanzania on 23% followed by the main opposition CUF chairman Professor Lipumba with 19%. The Chairman of the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation, Dr Salim Ahmed Salim got 11% and the names of some ten other possible candidates were mentioned. (For more information on this subject see TA No 78.)

## FIVE NEW COFFEE HYBRIDS

Five improved Arabica coffee hybrids which have been developed by the Lyamungo Coffee Research Institute are to be distributed to coffee growers around the country. Officiating at the climax of the Northern Zone Coffee Farmers Open Day on July 16, attended by 500 farmers, Deputy Minister for Agriculture Prof. Pius Mbawala directed the institute to speed up the distribution of the hybrids to farmers. One of the major constraints to productivity and growth of the coffee industry had been the continued cultivation of old varieties that were low yielding and highly vulnerable to disease, he said. "The salient features of these samples include the required high yield, disease resistance as well as large bean size and good cup quality," Prof. Mbawala explained. Each of the new varieties boasts resistance to Coffee Berry Disease (CBD) and Coffee Leaf Diseases (CLR). They should reduce costs of production by up to 50%.

Chairman of the Board Directors of the Institute, Edwin Mtei, said the formal pre-release of the five improved Arabica varieties would not have been possible without the generous support of the European Union (EU) - *Guardian*.

## BUSINESS & THE ECONOMY

Exchange Rates: £1 = TShs 2,000  
\$1 = TShs 1,100

Presenting the government BUDGET estimates for the 2004/5 financial year on June 9, Minister of Finance Basil Mramba said priorities for help would be the poor sectors including farmers, peasants and petty traders. The Minister outlined measures which would be taken to support the agricultural sector as well as provide allocations for defraying transport cost for fertilizer to selected regions which get adequate rainfall for farming.

He proposed exemption from excise duty for wine and brandy produced from locally grown grapes in order to expand the local market and increase production in Dodoma Region, and black tea and packaged tea from VAT in order to enhance competitiveness following liberalisation of the tea market in the East African Community.

Mramba asked the Parliament to approve a TShs 3,347.5bn/- budget of which TShs 2,239bn/- was recurrent expenditure and TShs 1,091.5bn/- for development expenditure. Out of the total budget, TShs 1,739.2bn/- would come from domestic revenue and the rest from foreign loans and grants, the sale of shares in state companies and domestic financing. The Minister announced increased excise tariffs on carbonated soft drinks and beer and established excise duty on satellite television broadcasting at a rate of 5% of the retail selling price as well as increased excise tariffs for cigarettes, wine and spirits. He also announced reduced visa fees for foreigners entering Tanzania on business from 200 US dollars to 50 US dollars. He said the government had allocated funds to cover emergency power supplies and that TANESCO would be supported to meet contractual charges in respect of IPTL and SONGAS.

Opposition leaders have criticized the government's decision to increase funding for security organs saying the move would cause chaos in next year's elections. Minister for Home Affairs Omar Mapuri



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defended the decision saying it was timely in the wake of increased banditry. "We'll strengthen the war against banditry and other acts of evil. Our aim is to have free and fair elections. Power hungry people who would cause chaos will be dealt with accordingly," he said.

Fees in government day secondary schools have been lowered to TShs 20,000/- from TShs 40,000/-. Each school will get TShs 20,000/- for each student to make up for the deficit, Mungai said, adding that non-commercial private schools and seminaries would each get a subsidy of TShs 10,000/- per student. He said the Government would also support people's initiatives in the construction of libraries and laboratories. "A development subsidy of TShs 7 million/- will be given in support of people's initiative in the construction of a classroom and TShs 9 million/- for a teacher's house," the Minister said.

The number of subjects on the secondary school curriculum would be reduced from 13 to 9 to put emphasis on core subjects, namely civics, Kiswahili, English, mathematics, biology, history, geography, physics and chemistry - *Guardian*.

The Government on July 6 announced increases in salaries of civil servants on average by 9% to 12.5% in the 2004/2005 financial year. According to the changes graduate teachers would get TShs 140,000 up from TShs 123,000 while graduate doctors would get TShs. 200,000 up from TShs. 66,000 monthly salary - *Mwananchi*.

The National Bank of Commerce (NBC) Ltd today has unveiled what it said was set to become the largest VISA-enabled ATM network ever in Tanzania. NBC was offering its clients this international service through its growing association with VISA International. The Bank also lowered its minimum balance on Savings Accounts to TShs. 5,000; it has established 29 Automated Teller Machines across the country and launched Internet Banking. The VISA connectivity will enable anyone with a VISA-enabled debit or credit card to access their external or foreign accounts through any NBC ATM in Tanzania.

NBC has a new Managing Director, Mr Christo de Vries, who has succeeded Gerald Jordaan, who in 1999 became the first non-Tanzanian

managing director of NBC after privatisation of the formerly state-owned bank in a deal which brought majority shares under the ownership of South Africa's Absa Group Ltd - *Financial Times*.

A group of hotels including the wildlife lodges at Lake Manyara, Ngorongoro, Seronera and Lobo and Mafia Island have been sold to private sector investors who paid some \$11.6 million. The investors plan to invest a further \$14 million in a upgrading the lodges - *Guardian*.

## NEWS FROM THE FAITHS

The former Institute of TANESCO in Morogoro is to be converted into a Muslim University. This was announced by President Mkapa when he was inaugurating the Muslim Development Foundation (MDF) in May. TShs 1bn/- has been collected for the project. The President contributed TShs 10m/- to the fund and Vice-President Ali Mohammed Shein pledged TShs 5m/-. Zanzibar President Amani Abeid Karume contributed TShs 9m/- and Prime Minister, Frederick Sumaye, pledged TShs 5m/-. - *Guardian*.

Muslims who camped in Mwanza for a week doing self-help work in constructing a secondary school have been hailed as a people who have 'rediscovered themselves.' Imams who participated in the self-help project called on Muslims to stop complaining and do whatever they can to liberate themselves from poverty and ignorance - *An-Nuur*.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Jakaya Kikwete has revealed that certain people are questioning his close relationship with the Lugoba Catholic Church in his constituency of Chalinze. "Some say I have a political agenda in donating handsomely to Lugoba Church while others, especially fellow Muslims, have gone to the extent of questioning my sincerity in the Islamic faith that I profess." He said that he was helped by Lugoba church to pursue further studies and that he could have ended at Standard IV in school if it were not for the church's assistance - *Mwananchi*.



Bishop Godfrey Mhogolo of the Central Tanganyika Diocese of the Anglican Church was quoted in *The Mirror* (July 13) as saying that the Government was spending a lot of taxpayers' money on unnecessary seminars and workshops in big conference halls instead of addressing the problems facing village folk. On next year's general elections, Bishop Mhogolo advised Tanzanians to take whatever they might be given by the candidates as bribes to buy their votes, but said that such candidates should not be voted in. "I want this message to spread that if a stupid candidate comes to you and gives you money, cloth, alcohol or whatever to influence your decision, take it but do not vote for him/her," he said.

Members of the Zanzibar House of Representatives should debate the increasing number of churches now under construction in the Isles especially in rural Zanzibar and not the legality of the operations of the radical *Uamsho* group of Moslems (JUMIKI) according to the Islamic newspaper *An-Nuur*. The MPs should also ask the Government if it was aware of the existence of a questionnaire with 71 difficult questions set by the Tanzania Pentecostal Church. Failing to answer these questions was the cause of many Moslems joining Christianity. This move came after some MPs had asked the Government in the House to de-register JUMIKI for allegedly inciting the largely Moslem population of Zanzibar.

There was fighting and chaos at a burial ceremony in Shinyanga municipality involving Moslems and Christians when an Acting Secretary of the main Mosque in Ndala Division, Ramadhani Kitumbo, announced that Christians and non-believers were not allowed to participate in burial and wedding ceremonies that involved Moslems. According to *Mtanzania* one of the Moslems attending the funeral told journalists that the order to segregate Christians and non-believers was issued by a special Moslem Committee. Another said that aggrieved Moslems had joined their Christian and pagan relatives to fight the fundamentalist section of the Moslem community in the area. The radical Imam involved was subsequently summoned and warned.

*The Express* in its July 5th issue reported that the US would increase the

amount of money designated for Tanzania in its fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS. The article then went on to examine the attitude of the Catholic Church to Aids. Extracts: 'Although caring for many AIDS sufferers in the country, it has been argued that the Church is a killer rather than a healer. Its critics say that as long as it continues to reject condoms, it can be charged with contributing to the spread of the disease. Following the teachings of the Church, the proper and only way of halting the spread is to foster a change in moral behaviour. The Pope had made it clear however that the Church would not change its perception on condoms and soften its ban, despite the prevailing circumstances of rapid spread of the disease. The Church refused to deal with human realities and, because of this, Christian teaching would be upheld at the cost of many people's lives.... A church that did not pay respect to the circumstances in which it preaches had failed in its mission....'

The Government of Zanzibar sent Sheikh Kurwa Shauri back to his home in Tabora insisting that his actions posed a threat to national security. Muslim fundamentalists then started a campaign aimed at pressuring the Government to reverse its decision. Sheikh Shauri had been arrested at the Zanzibar port the moment he set foot on the Isles as an order issued in 1993 was still valid. He was said to have been repeatedly warned to stop making derogatory statements.

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## TANZANIA IN THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

*(In order to make this section as interesting and representative as possible we welcome contributions from readers. If you see a mention of Tanzania in the journal, magazine or newspaper you read, especially if you live overseas or travel outside the UK/Tanzania, please send us the relevant item together with the name and date of the publication to the address on the back page. If you do not wish your name be published please say so - Editor).*

Needless to say the arrest in Pakistan of Ahmed Ghailani (from Zanzibar), who is accused of having masterminded the bombing of the American embassies in Dar es Salaam and Nairobi attracted massive coverage in the media all over the world. The heaviest coverage, over several days, was in Pakistan's newspapers. After the capture of Ghailani the Pakistan **DAILY TIMES** (July 31) quoted the Pakistan Interior Minister as saying: "We have now been quite successful in apprehending some of the most important figures of the Al-Qaeda including Khalid Sheikh Muhammad, Ramzi Al-Sheban and many others.... Pakistani security forces had been acting on a tip-off when they raided a suspected militant hideout. Ghailani, his Uzbek wife, and up to eight other foreigners, including two South Africans, were among those arrested according to Pakistan's **NATION** newspaper (August 6). 'They were strangers, and they acted as such, keeping mostly to themselves,' the newspaper said. Investigators were scouring a computer and several disks seized from Ghailani and the others after a 14-hour gun battle with security forces in the city of Gujarat, 175 km southeast of Islamabad. Ghailani's driver led police to his hideout. Among those found in the house were three women and five children. Ghailani had brought two other foreign comrades to his 'safe house' after the group became nervous that security forces were closing in on the hotel in Gujarat where they had been staying.

The security forces have also caught his local contact, Ejaz Warraich, a member of *Millat-e-Islamia* who rented the safe house for Ghailani. Ghailani, who reportedly could not drive a car at the time of the bombings in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, was probably the most senior Al Qaeda operative caught in Pakistan since the arrest in March 2003 of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the suspected mastermind of the Sept 11, 2001 attacks on New York and Washington. "It is a big achievement for

our security forces," Interior Minister Faisal Saleh Hayat told the Pakistan National Assembly. It seems to have led on to the arrest of several other suspected terrorists.

The attack by pirates on a party of British students in Pemba in July received massive publicity in the British press. The **DAILY EXPRESS** filled its front page and two inside pages with articles under the headline 'Shot by pirates - Terror ordeal of teenage British girl on gap-year trip to paradise island'. The article in **THE TIMES** on 5th July under the heading 'Britons on gap year are shot by African pirates' wrote: 'The 25 students taking part in a gap year diving expedition were forced to bury their heads in the sand while the pirates stole money, jewellery and watches. "When the shot went off, everyone thought it was some sort of celebration," one of them said. "Then, without any warning, the pirates just started shooting".

The headline in the **INTERNATIONAL EXPRESS** read: 'Home at last: Survivor of the Pirate Raiders.' (*Thank you Douglas Gledhill for sending this from Australia - Editor*) which described how 'the brave gap year student, Grace Foster, escaped death by one mm when a bullet passed through her, narrowly missing her spine, before lodging in 20 year-old Robert Scott's thigh.' Grace said: "Once the bullet is removed we are planning to split it in half and each have a piece in memory of our Pemba Island ordeal." Police later arrested five suspects in a massive manhunt and recovered the boat allegedly used. One of the suspects had been in police uniform and armed with a pistol; the raiders escaped with, among other things, £2,500, two outboard engines, two computers and two drums of petrol.

Pages and pages of illustrations supported an article in the July issue of the **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE** under the heading: 'Hunting for Glory - with the Barabaig of Tanzania.' Extracts: 'The Barabaig live on the margins of Tanzanian society, struggling to maintain their cultural traditions. The Government prosecutes anyone hunting elephants outside of licensed safaris so hunts are conducted in strict secrecy. The Geographic's photographer spent six months with the Barabaig before he was allowed to join a hunt..... each man receives two

to four spears...novices must prove themselves before earning more than two weapons... Rushing in for the kill the hunters face the danger of losing life or limb.... three hunter were killed during the writer's time with them.....They walk for 12 hours a day and eat nothing for the duration of the hunt, which can last a week or more. Only the first two men to kill will become 'superheroes'. The article concluded: 'No one knows exactly how many elephants the Barabaig kill each year but the number is relatively small. Conservationists agree that these traditional practices pose no threat to Tanzanian's robust elephant herd estimated to exceed 100,000.'

A letter from a British reader in the July issue of **NEW AFRICAN** contrasted the generosity and tolerance to refugees and asylum seekers offered by African countries with the xenophobic attacks typical of Britain. 'Tanzania shares what it has with millions of refugees.....the right-wing media and some British opposition politicians should take a leaf from Tanzania.....' the letter said.

The **EAST AFRICAN** (May 10) revealed the contents of an unpublished mid-year donors' (including the World Bank, the IMF, Canada, France, Germany, UK, the Netherlands and the Nordic countries) review of the 'Poverty Reduction Budget Support and Poverty Reduction Support Credit.' The development partners said they were seriously concerned by the continued delay in preparing a new Bill on corruption. The long delay appeared to indicate a lack of commitment by the Government they said. However, President Mkapa criticised the media and politicians for accusing his government of corruption, saying instead that such media owners should explain to the public where they got their capital and how they recouped their losses. Tanzanian Attorney General Andrew Chenge said: "It is unfair to generalise in evaluating our fight against corruption because efforts have been made to curb the vice; there is no pending new Bill on corruption. What's in the pipeline is making amendments to the anti-corruption law; this is being dealt with by other stakeholders such as the Tanzania Law Reform Commission," he said.

**NEW AFRICAN** (August) published the results of a poll of its readers to nominate the 'greatest African of all time'. The late President Julius Nyerere came 4th in a list of 100. He was described as 'a great leader who refused to allow the trappings of power to corrupt. He was respected by his country, Africa and the rest of the world.' Needless to say number one on the list was Nelson Mandela - 'a living legend'; number-two was Ghana's Kwame Nkrumah; and, number three was Robert Mugabe. No other Tanzanians were on the list. Kofi Annan was 10th; Michael Jackson was 41st, F.W. de Clerk 50th, the William's sisters 73rd, the Queen of Sheba 87th and Helen Suzman 100th.

The **GUARDIAN WEEKLY** (30th July) and the **INDEPENDENT** (3rd August) reported that the 354 - pupil Mvumi Secondary School is expected to receive up to £500,000 from the Chief Executive of Marks and Spencer, Stuart Rose, if the M&S share price rises over 400p. Mr Rose's connection with Mvumi began three years ago. He had spent eight years in Tanzania as a child and was looking to donate money to a project when he met the head teacher at Mvumi Mr Richard Morris. He has already paid for the building of a new school administration block. (*Thank you Janet Bujra and Liz Fennell for sending these items - Editor*).

Reporting on numerous violations of human rights of African students in Russia, **NEW AFRICAN** (April) described the growth of racism in the country. One case quoted was that of a Tanzanian student, Isaac Mwita, who was taking a pre-University Russian language course and had been viciously attacked by a group of five skinheads. One of them stabbed him in what seemed a ritual manner and left him writhing in agony, after they had stripped him of his jacket and forced him to lie on the ice-covered ground on a day when the temperature had fallen to minus 15 degrees. He was hospitalised in critical condition but was eventually released and returned home to Tanzania.

The American publication **AFRICA NEWS REPORT** (6th July) quoting from the **NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE** (July 1) reported that researchers from the Harvard School of Public Health and Tanzania's Muhimbili University College of Health Services had found

that women taking multivitamins (vitamins B-complex, C and E) significantly delayed the progression of HIV compared to those in the study who received a placebo instead. Researchers randomly assessed 1,078 HIV-infected pregnant women who were enrolled over a two-year period beginning in April 1995 and were followed until August 2003. 'All women received standard doses of antenatal folic acid and iron, and all children received six-monthly doses of vitamin A, as per standard of care in Tanzania.' It added that anti-retroviral therapy was unavailable at the time of the study to the majority of women in Tanzania, including those who were eligible for participation in the study. During the study, 299 of the 1,078 women either died from AIDS-related causes or progressed to WHO stage 4 (equivalent to AIDS). Among the 271 women who received multivitamins, 24.7% progressed to WHO stage 4 or died of AIDS-related causes; among women who received multivitamins with vitamin A, the total was 26.1%; for those who received vitamin A alone, it was 29%; and of those who received the placebo, it was 31.1%. Moreover, women in the study who took multivitamins had 'higher CD4 immune cell counts, lower viral loads, and reduced complications of HIV infection, including oral thrush, oral ulcers, difficulty in swallowing, diarrhoea and fatigue. Our data suggest that multivitamins delay the onset of disease progression and thus extend the time until such therapy is necessary. Multivitamin supplementation is inexpensive: US \$15 per person per year.

The Nairobi-based **EAST AFRICAN STANDARD** (July 26) reported that Microsoft Corporation is appealing to Kiswahili experts to help it create a standardised technical glossary for its Kiswahili program. The company has launched an interactive website where experts can contribute their suggestions. The website offers volunteer participants a platform to debate and help create Kiswahili translations of over 3,000 English computer terminology words. Patrick Opiyo, who is managing the Corporation's Kiswahili programme, said that when the Kiswahili language program was complete, over 100 million people would have access. He put a closing date on the scheme of August 11, 2004 after which the project moderator would begin the review and selection. The final draft deadline was to be September 3, 2004 - *Thank you Ron Fennell for sending this item - Editor.*

The **ASIA PACIFIC MISSION FOR MIGRANTS** in Hong Kong reported on July 19 (following a Press Release from the LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE in Dar es Salaam on July 16) the case of the rape of a Tanzanian maid by an official of the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Dar es Salaam. The Centre strongly condemned this act and criticized the Tanzanian Government for even considering taking financial compensation from Saudi Arabia. This was offered as the diplomat enjoyed diplomatic immunity. The Centre demanded that the diplomat should be taken to court - *Thank you Ken Mpopo for sending details of this case - Editor.*

The **ANTIQUES TRADE GAZETTE** of 15th May described the sale of close to 100 items at Christie's in London of books on the life and extraordinary times of Richard Burton. An 1872 first issue of the publication 'Zanzibar' that sold for £6,500 contained the sheet in which Isabel Burton, just a few days after publication, presented the book 'With the hearty best wishes of Richard Burton for the success of the Livingstone expedition' to a Lieutenant Llewellyn Dawson who was to lead a search expedition into the interior from Zanzibar - *Thank you John Sankey for sending this item - Editor.*

**THE TIMES** (5th May) quoted Bob Geldof of Live Aid as saying that there was 'initiative fatigue over Africa'. The 'Commission for Africa' set up by Tony Blair had held its first meeting in London in May. Asked why there should be yet another commission, President Mkapa, who is a member said: "I would ask you why preachers preach every Sunday in spite of the fact that the Bible has been with us for 2000 years. It is as simple as that. Sometimes inculcation can energise people to do something.....We hope to produce the energy that will generate action and implement recommendations that may well be a replication of what has been said before." The **BBC's FOCUS ON AFRICA** (July-September) under the heading 'Africa's champion - UK Prime Minister Tony Blair is taking up Africa's cause on the international stage' included an article by British Aid Minister Hilary Benn. He wrote that he was broadly in favour of the establishment of the Commission. But there was another article by William Mervyn-Gumede which took a very cynical view. It asked who were the 'stooges' in the Commission and decided that it

was the African members. Mr Blair had been under fire over Iraq and this was a useful diversion. Mr Blair should have noted that many African countries were still waiting for the G 8 countries to fulfil previous promises to Africa. They could have pointed out that rich countries gave their farmers \$320 billion in handouts, more than six times the amount they gave to poor countries in aid. 'One of the commissioners, perhaps President Mkapa, might have insisted on fair global trade as a pillar of any effort to reduce African poverty' the writer said.

The **EASTERN AFRICA MAGAZINE** in its July issue published a letter from Dr Frederick Kassulamemba describing the Britain-Tanzania Society as doing a superb job in bringing development to one of the poorest countries in the world. Even more satisfying was its success in helping to win the war on debt cancellation by the British Government.

An article in the April issue of the **NEWSLETTER OF THE JUBILEE DEBT CAMPAIGN** quoted President Mkapa as saying how much he wished the campaign success and commended it for its new initiative. Tanzania's debt relief had been directed towards the social sectors and, as a result, the primary school population had increased by 50%; over 31,000 new classrooms had been built; hospitals were being refitted and the rate of immunisation had reached 83% - *Thank you Sylvia Voisk for sending this - Editor.*

The American publication **AFRICA NEWS REPORT** gave the results in August of the 'diversity lottery' for persons wishing to obtain permanent resident visas in the USA. 9.5 million persons applied during 2003 of whom 100,000 were successful, including 356 from Tanzania.

**BBC NEWS AFRICA** carried a story that Tanzanian wildlife authorities were investigating the deaths of some 10,000 flamingos in June/July 2004 at Lake Manyara. The National Park's chief warden Betty Loibooki said that tests showed that the birds might have died from toxins in algae. Similar incidences have occurred over the past decade in Kenya's alkaline lakes Nakuru, Bogoria and Elmentaita and in Tanzania's Lake Natron and Embakai in 2002. The deaths are not thought to be related to pesticide use.

## CRIME

Like most other countries Tanzania is suffering from an upsurge in crime. Recent cases include the following:

On 9th June the wife of former Prime Minister John Malecela was attacked by bandits on the Dar es Salaam - Morogoro highway when she stopped to change a flat tyre. Mrs Malecela's 18-year-old son was beaten up when he refused to hand over his mobile phone.

The Swahili press reported on August 10 that Acting Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Mr. Evarist Manumba (59) had been gunned down by burglars who entered his home in the city. Police said two bullets entered his hand and leg. He died later at Muhimbili hospital due to excessive bleeding. It happened at 7.45 pm when the burglars overpowered a guard and a housemaid. Manumba did his post-graduate studies in Economics and Health Planning in the eighties at South Bank and Leeds universities in the UK.

On May 21 robbers stole TShs 3.8 billion from the Moshi branch of the National Bank of Commerce. TShs 129 million was recovered. During succeeding weeks some 51 persons were arrested for the crime. The first 18, led by a four-man defense team, denied the charges in a packed courtroom on July 20. - *Nipashe.*

*Nipashe* reported on July 4 that about six bandits shot dead a Swiss investor Walter Peter (42) at his home at Ngongongale village, Arumeru district, in Arusha region and made away with property. The deceased settled in the village in 2001 and was erecting a tourist hotel. There were reports that he was not on good terms with his neighbours who accused him of hiring and firing labourers indiscriminately.

A British national, Stephen Forwood (62), a tourist accompanied by his wife, was sentenced to serve two years in jail by the Ilala District Court in Dar es Salaam. He was found in possession of three sticks of bhang (marijuana) on arrival at the Dar Es Salaam International Airport. But, a day later, on July 26, the Magistrate rescinded her judgment and sentenced him instead to a suspended sentence and a fine of TShs 20,000. Forwood's counsel had earlier prayed for the court to review the sentence as his client was a stranger in the country with a family who came from a society where, for someone to be found with small amounts of

marijuana for personal use was not a crime - *Majira*.

*Majira* has reported that two suspected Ugandan bandits were killed in Arusha when they engaged the police in a shoot out in the main street. The police had been tipped off that the bandits were intending to rob a prominent shop in the municipality.

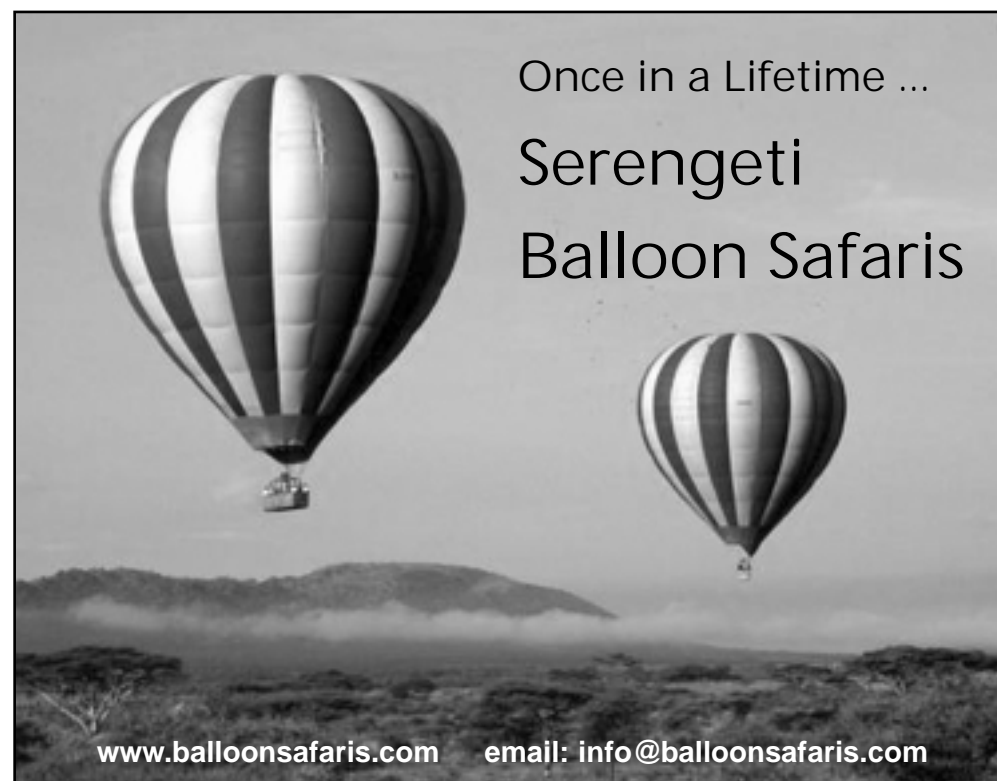
On August 1st at 9.30am six armed thieves waylaid a bus carrying 32 overseas tourists (including ten Britons) travelling from Moshi to Arusha and robbed them of more than TShs5 million and \$2,600 as well other personal belongings. The robbers used two motorbikes to pursue the bus from Moshi. No one was injured. In mid-August seven Dutch tourists visiting the ancient ruins at Kijichi village in Zanzibar were robbed of back packs, wristwatches and money - *Uhuru*.

The *Guardian* reported on June 12 that a gang of thugs had cordoned off part of the busy Uhuru Street in Dar es Salaam and raided a number of shops in the area. The gangsters were dressed in military fatigues and brandished AK-47 assault rifles. Hawkers operating in the area dived for cover. Shops closed. A number of commuters jumped out of *dal-adalas* through the windows and ran away in different directions. While some thugs kept watch, their colleagues proceeded to rob nearby shops, appearing to specifically target those selling mobile phones. However, in spite of this crime wave the number of tourists visiting Zanzibar continues to increase. From January to June 2004 more than 34,000 tourists entered, compared to 39,000 from January to October 2003. (*Mwananchi*)

A suspected robber was shot dead in Dar es Salaam at 8pm on August 7 when police ambushed a gang of thugs robbing customers at 'Traders Grill' on Bagamoyo Road. The gangsters had stormed the restaurant a few minutes earlier and fired several shots in the air before ordering patrons to lie down and surrender their mobile phones, cash and other valuables. Police rushed to the restaurant and shot the robber dead after he refused to surrender and attempted to shoot the officers. Three other gangsters sustained gunshot wounds in the incident, but managed to escape in a Toyota Chaser saloon. Police engaged the robbers in a high-speed chase and upon reaching Kijitonyama, near the National Science and Technology Commission headquarters, the gangsters' car collided

with another vehicle and landed in a ditch. But the thugs gave police the slip once again after abandoning their car and escaping from members of the public who had attempted to lynch them. The Police said it should not be difficult to trace the suspects as they all had gaping wounds and that it was possible that they had sought treatment in private hospitals - *Guardian*.

Meanwhile, the police have not been idle. They destroyed 850 illegal arms from 883 suspects from January to December 2003 and as part of the 2004/2005 budget the Government will be recruiting 2000 more police constables. In Dar es Salaam they arrested two witchdoctors accused of illegal possession of firearms. They were quoted as saying that robbers often deposited their weapons with witchdoctors for their blessing before setting out to steal - *Nipashe*.



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## POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

*Express* writer Fatima Bapumia posed the following question in a recent issue of the newspaper. Have we ever thought of what will happen if Tanzania turns politically correct (PC)? She went on: 'Political correctness is the alteration of language to redress real or alleged unjust discrimination or to avoid offences. One purpose of a 'politically correct' language is to prevent the exclusion or the offending of people based upon differences or handicaps. For instance, instead of calling someone blind you would say "a person with visual impairment". In Tanzania there is already some element of PC when it comes to gender issues. In most organizations words like manpower and chairman are being replaced with work force and chairperson respectively. If you are writing an official letter you have to be careful to address it to Sir/Madam. Words like cameramen are also being replaced with photographers....but these words are already in neutral form in Kiswahili, our national language. PC words are not just limited to women but they comprise ethnic groups, professions, habits, sicknesses and handicaps.' She then gave a long list of possible PC words in Kiswahili 'just in case Tanzania goes PC.'

Examples:

Fat ( <i>mass gravitationally challenged</i> )	Mnene ( <i>mtu mwenye vikwazo vya nguvu za uvutano kwa uwiano wa uzito</i> )
Deaf ( <i>person with audio impairment</i> )	Kiziwi ( <i>mtu mwenye hitilafu ya kusikia</i> )
House wife ( <i>domestic engineer</i> )	Mama wa nyumbani ( <i>mhandisi wanyumba</i> )
Sex ( <i>cooperative physical fitness</i> )	Ngono ( <i>mazoezi ya ushirikiano</i> )
Poor ( <i>economically marginalized</i> )	Masikini ( <i>mtu aliyetengwa kiuchumi</i> )
Bald ( <i>follicularly challenged</i> )	Mtu mwenye upara ( <i>mtu aliye na vikwazo vya kinyweleo</i> )
Prostitute ( <i>body entrepreneur</i> )	Kahaba ( <i>mjasirimali wa kimwili</i> )
Lazy ( <i>motivationally dispossessed</i> )	Mvivu ( <i>mtu aliyenyimwa motisha</i> )
Murderer ( <i>termination specialist</i> )	Muuaji ( <i>mtaalamu wa kikomo</i> )
Dead ( <i>metabolically challenged</i> )	Maiti ( <i>mtu mwenye vikwazo vya ujenzi na uvunjaji wa kemikali mwilini</i> ).

## EXCELLENT FILMS & BETTER AMBIENCE

*Mary Wright* writing in *The Express* in July described the 2004 Zanzibar Film Festival (ZIFF) in glowing terms. Extracts:

How to define or explain the charm of this island, in particular of Stone Town? On your left: ancient white-painted palaces whence the sultans used to rule, and mosques and old forts fringed with palm trees; on your right: speeding minibuses, bicycles, motorbikes and landcruisers; beyond them the quayside where fishermen are sitting or distributing their catch against the background of the blue ocean..... One feels the influence of an ancient civilisation, its calm and confidence.....Over four and a half days I saw 21 films, including five short ones, two interrupted by mosquitoes and one cut off by power failure. All were of high quality in their production and all had something to say...The film which won the silver award; "Gardiens de la Memoire", about the genocide of Tutsis in Rwanda, although it consisted mainly of interviews with survivors, was striking not only because of the subject but also because of the trauma of the individual speakers. Another excellent film containing many interviews was "Memories of Rain". It concerns the lives of two people who had been underground members of the ANC in South Africa....The only other filmmaker I met over these festival days was a lady from Kenya, Sonal Tyagi, who'd made the film "The Ivory Orphans". Such a beautiful subject and quite amazing, the process of persuading orphaned baby elephants to adapt and form a bond first with their human keepers, then, when it was time, with a group of elephants in Tsavo Game Reserve and get themselves accepted by these. Again, the short film about the lioness who adopted an oryx calf (inspiring local Christians to believe that God was about to return) was both beautiful and tragic ("Heart of a Lioness", Kenya).

Across the road from the film screenings were the open-air musical events, making a joyful noise indeed. Hordes of folk, not just youngsters and certainly not just tourists, made their way to sit beside the sea and hear these rampaging, wild musicians... People drifted back late at night along the footpath by the quay; not least of the pleasures of Stone Town is that apparently one is perfectly safe walking about no matter what hour of day or night.

I just have to talk about two outstanding entries whose memory remains with me: the Iranian film "Women's Prison" and the Senegalese

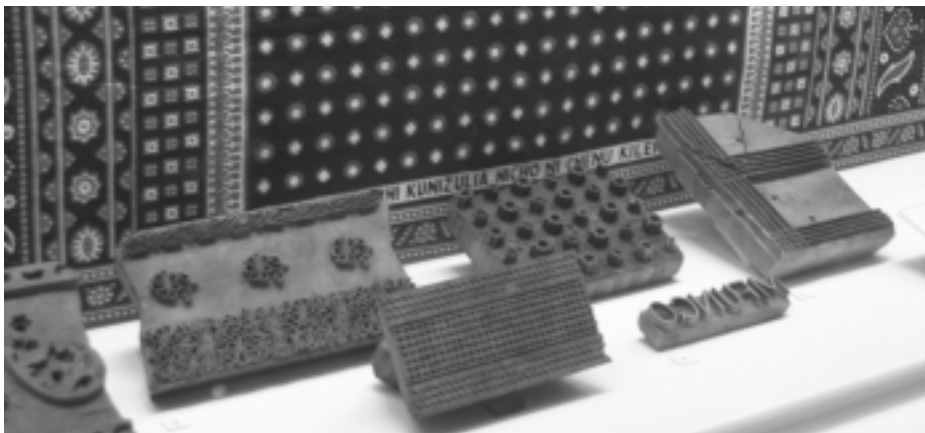
one "Madame Brouette". To take the latter, gayer one first, this was a riot of colour and action; all sorts of mayhem and corruption but also friendship, solidarity, love. It had already won many prizes and its sequences were superbly put together. As for the Iranian film, the projection room was packed for it and it's difficult to explain the fascination of this story which took place over 17 years.

As a total experience this seventh ZIFF festival was marvellous, I just can't wait to go again. The setting is primordial. An ideal home for the international flavour of the Ziff festival.

## BRITISH MUSEUM KHANGA DISPLAY

*Elsbeth Court writes*

A colourful and interesting example of the British Museum's recent collection of Khanga Swahili cloth wrappers with proverbs is on view in a new case at the north entrance, Montague Street, until mid-September. The arrangement of 16 pieces, mostly from Tanzania, addressed themes of history, production use and chronology, which referred to timely designs such as the Zanzibar Football Stadium, the celebration of Idd and prevention of Aids. The curator, Christopher Spring, intends to extend the project and the installation of the collection into the Africa Galleries. He would welcome the comments of anyone who was able to see the display.



*Wooden blocks used in printing khangas on display at the British Museum*

## LOSS OF GOATS

Guardian correspondent in Zanzibar Mwinyi Sadallah reported on July 21 that CCM member of the Zanzibar House of Representatives Ame Mati Wadi had blamed the Government over the loss of some goats early this year. He was debating the budget estimates of the Zanzibar Agriculture, Natural Resources, Environment and Cooperatives ministry, and demanded to know the whereabouts of the goats, before the estimates were passed. Apparently, livestock keepers in Kaskazini A District had applied for licences from the Director of Livestock before transporting 84 goats to the central market. But while in transit, livestock officers seized them on the grounds that there was a quarantine. 52 goats went missing. In accordance with his democratic rights, Wadi said that he wanted to withdraw a shilling from the Minister's budget. This was a last resort. He had tried a number of government offices, including the Ministry responsible for Good Governance. The Minister, Musa Ame Silima, had admitted that Wadi's claims were genuine and it was true that officials of his ministry had seized the goats. He said the official who issued the licence for transporting the livestock, contrary to government directives, had been held accountable, adding that the Government was not in a position to report whether the goats had been lost or died - *Guardian*.

## TWO EVENTS IN LONDON

*Jacob Knight reports on two social events in Wembley recently organised by Tanzanians which gave a glimpse of the active Tanzanian community in the South East of England:*

The first was on 17th July and was a cultural celebration of 50 years since Saba Saba the formation of TANU, though there was little in the programme to reflect this. After an opening speech by the High Commissioner there was a fashion show supposed to be a 'Journey of Tanzania through 50 years' though the audience and MCs were left guessing as to how the procession of poorly lit models related to any historical background. A 'Celebration of the Khanga' explaining the different ways a khanga can be worn managed to make no mention of their use for carrying children and no reference to the Swahili messages



printed on them, and was all rather odd bearing in mind that most of the audience were Tanzanian. However the drama and dancing by students from the Bagamoyo College of Arts and the 'Highflyers' acrobats were much more enjoyable, and Khadija Kopa sang some excellent taarab music which lifted the evening. The final performance was from Freddy Macha and his *Kitoto* band, who are based in London.



The second event "Miss London Tanzania 2004", held the following Sunday, was much better attended with over 300 people, the vast majority Tanzanian. Organised by [www.miracletouch.co.uk](http://www.miracletouch.co.uk) and 'Prime Time Promotions', the idea was to choose a winner from 7 contestants who would go to Tanzania to compete in the Miss Tanzania event later this year. The night was compered by glamorous DJ Fina Mango from Clouds FM, and during the numerous intervals,

there were performances by Ray C (soul), Khadija Kopa (Taarab) and Mandojo & Domokaya (Bongo Flava rap). The eventual winner was Miss Andrena Muhele of Milton Keynes. The evening was also spectacularly late in starting (not getting going until after 11pm! ) but the general atmosphere was very enjoyable

*Thanks to Mzee Ayoub Mzee for sending the picture of the contestants - Ed*

## MISCELLANY

A Tanzanian from Moshi, Angela Nkya, fifth-year architecture student at Iowa State University in US, has won the \$3,000 annual Berkeley Undergraduate Prize for Architectural Design Excellence.

The **SUNDAY OBSERVER** (August 1) quoted Minister for Science, Technology and Higher Education, Pius Ng'wandu, as saying that using the giant pouched rat to detect smell, vapours or explosives used in anti-personnel landmines, could complement existing methods in this important field if well developed. "Apparently, during civil unrest the best lands become also the best sites used by minelayers to deter the adversary" he said. A Belgian de-mining organisation, the University of Antwerp, together with the Sokoine University, signed a memorandum of collaboration in 2001 to undertake research on the possibility of using the rat to detect by smell vapours of explosives used in anti-personnel landmines.

The **GUARDIAN** reported on June 16 that computer software giant Microsoft will release a computer operating system in Kiswahili at the end of this year.

Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda have obtained international registration and a patent for Lake Victoria's Nile Perch to establish themselves as sole exporters of this type of fish to Europe. The move is aimed at protecting the perch, popularly known in Tanzania as *Sangara*, against potential threats in its main export market. There were threats from exporters of similar kinds of fish from Asia - *Guardian*.

**MTANZANIA** has reported that Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Abdulkadir Shareef said on August 5th that Tanzania was to send 100 troops to Sudan as part of the African peace keeping force.

## OBITUARIES

The **RIGHT REVEREND GEORGE BRIGGS** (93) was a missionary priest in Tanzania for 36 years. He died on March 15. He had belonged to a company of unmarried Anglo-Catholic clergy and, in the years before the Second World War, felt drawn to sacrificial service in the Universities Mission to Central Africa. From 1969 to 1973 he was Warden of St Cyprian Theological College in Masasi where many future African bishops passed through his hands. In 1960 Father Trevor Huddleston was elected Bishop of Masasi and they worked closely in helping the Church and the nation to prepare for independence two years later. From 1964 to 1969 Briggs was Rector of St Albans, Dar es Salaam. In his will he left £1,000 to the Britain Tanzania Society - *from the obituary in the Daily Telegraph - Editor.*

**SIR HORACE PHILLIPS KCMG** (86) died on 19th March. He spent four years in Tanzania as British High Commissioner from 1968.

**ROBIN THORNE** (86) who died on May 11 was a District Officer in Tanganyika from 1948 to 1958 before moving to a very troubled Aden for nine years where he was badly wounded by a letter bomb. (*Thank you John Sankey for sending this information - Editor.*)

**DR. HAROLD WHEATE OBE** (86) died on 19th April. He was first in charge of the Makete Leprosarium, near Tukuyu (1954 - 58) and then of the Chazi Leprosarium, near Morogoro (1958 - 72). As Senior Government Leprologist, he developed a nation-wide leprosy control scheme which brought government and missionary medical workers together, an effective co-operation which dramatically improved the rates for early diagnosis and treatment of leprosy around the country. (*Thank you Mike Wheate for sending this - Editor.*)

## REVIEWS

Editor - John Cooper-Poole

**JOURNEY INTO AFRICA. THE LIFE AND DEATH OF KEITH JOHNSTON, SCOTTISH CARTOGRAPHER AND EXPLORER** (1844-79). James McCarthy. Whittles Publishing ISBN 1-904445-01-2. 2004. Pp. 248.

The origins of this remarkable biography lie in an invitation to the author from the Director of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, to transcribe the unpublished expedition diary of Keith Johnston, who was among the last of the European explorers of the classical period of African exploration. Only a small part of the book derives from that manuscript, however. The author obtained access to Johnston family papers, which provided insights into the formative years in Keith Johnston's short life. Thereafter, the author sought out a range of archival sources shedding new light on the evolution of the family firm of Alexander Johnston, Keith's father and one of the most prestigious cartographic houses of the nineteenth century. The author also immersed himself in the literature of nineteenth-century African exploration. The result is a significant contribution, both to the history of nineteenth-century cartography and to the history of European penetration of Africa.

Although much the smaller part of the narrative, the part which will be of most interest to readers of *Tanzanian Affairs* will be the account of four months of preparation in Zanzibar in 1879, the trial safari to the Usambaras, before the eventual departure from Dar es Salaam southwest to Behobeho village on the banks of the Rufiji, where Johnston died of dysentery and was buried, with the expedition less than two months old. The slow progress of the expedition, the observations which were made and the many difficulties encountered are related from Johnston's diary and from the records of his young and ultimately more famous assistant, Joseph Thomson. The tragic brevity of Johnston's journey into what is now the Selous Game Reserve is emphasised by the short flight which the author himself made in 2001, in an unsuccessful attempt to locate Johnston's grave. This was to be the last great expedition into Africa mounted by the Royal Geographical Society. At last, a part of it has been meticulously researched in its wider context, within a scholarly biography which is lucidly written and appropriately illustrated.

Jeffrey Stone

**WOMEN STRIVING FOR SELF-RELIANCE: DIVERSITY OF FEMALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS IN TANZANIA AND THE LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES THEY EMPLOY.** Anke van Vuuren 2003. Amsterdam University, Drukkerij Haan-Bedum. ISBN 090 5448 055 3. Available from African Studies Centre, P.O. Box 9555, 2300 Leiden, The Netherlands. asc@leidenuniv.nl

This book provides a detailed account of livelihood strategies of Nyamwezi female household heads in Ndala, Tabora, documenting the ways and means by which female-headed households manage to not only get by but even flourish. This bucks the view that female-headed households are necessarily marginalized relative to male-headed households. Interestingly, Van Vuuren found a very high incidence of female-headed households in Ndala, 42%, rather than the normal 20-33% one comes to expect in rural villages in many parts of Sub-Saharan Africa.

Van Vuuren refined the concept of household headship discerning four different forms of female headed-households. Besides the usual divorced, widowed or married women temporarily heading households by virtue of male migration, there was a relatively new category, the avowedly unmarried single female heads of households. This is a category that has been observed in urban settings for decades, but it has been rare in rural areas where women are generally made to feel that they should reside with a male 'protector' in the form of a father or husband.

Non-agricultural income diversification is central to the economic well-being of the female heads of household. Non-agricultural income diversification is very far advanced in Ndala generally with 96% of female-headed households' income and 88% of male-headed households' income coming from non-agricultural sources. Ndala is a settlement that is outgrowing its village origins, being the site of a Catholic mission hospital and school. The Mission complex offers salaried employment opportunities to a level quite unusual in the Tanzanian village context. The implication is that not only is salaried employment higher but the multiplier effects of such formal employment raises the level of informal sector opportunities for people. Hence Ndala has a higher than average level of non-agricultural income-earning.

Women have access to formal and informal employment and are choosing not

to marry men - the new breed of female household heads. But would such a category exist in the absence of the Mission employment? Why are such women avoiding marriage to men? Men are largely invisible in this study. How are they reacting to this? And what do the missionaries think about this trend?

This is a pioneering study with surprising findings, opening the way for research elsewhere to ascertain if Ndala is an isolated case or part and parcel of a growing trend. It is readily evident that the author had very good rapport with her female informants and gleaned valuable insights into household emotional relationships and family finance. The book will appeal to anyone wanting to know more about Unyamwezi, Tanzanian female-headed households or general social trends in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Deborah Bryceson

**AFRICAN DINOSAURS UNEARTHED.** The Tendaguru Expeditions By Gerhard Maier (2003). Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 380 pp. \$49.95. ISBN 0-252-34214-7

Eastern Africa is today famed for its fossil human ancestors, the hominins, but few concerned with those stars of the palaeontological world may know of the earlier work in the region that produced huge quantities of those other famous and popular fossils, dinosaurs. In fact between 1907 and 1931, German and then later British research teams recovered some of the finest known specimens of large Jurassic dinosaurs at Tendaguru in what is now southeastern Tanzania. This fascinating book by Gerhard Maier interweaves the history of the discoveries and the later fate of the remains with the political events of the 20th Century, and in the process even underlines the links between the search for dinosaurs and human ancestors. That most famous of all African palaeontologists and archaeologists, the Kenyan-born Louis Leakey, then a Cambridge student, was originally invited to join a British Museum (Natural History) expedition to recover more dinosaurs from Tendaguru in 1923

While the British sought more specimens, in Berlin technicians were busy removing the huge bones from the plaster jackets in which they had been encased for transportation back to Germany before World War I. The logistics of such recovery from field to museum would tax even a modern expedition, and in the chaos of early 1920s Germany raising funds for the preparation of

the material in the museum was an equally daunting task. But by the late 1920s whole skeletons had been reconstructed and numerous scientific papers published, and the importance of the material made clear to the scientific world and public alike. The material even survived the massive destruction of Berlin during World War II and the rather cavalier attitude to lending whole skeletons to overseas institutions under the German Democratic Republic, and to this day forms one of the centrepieces of the Berlin Natural History Museum.

Maier's book details all of this in great (perhaps at times a little excessive) detail, and ends with a very good review of the interpretation of Jurassic dinosaurs and the significant contribution to this field of study made by the Tendaguru specimens. In doing so, he also gives a very impressive review of the history of fossil prospecting in eastern Africa as a whole during the first part of the 20th Century, and of the extreme conditions in which much of the work at Tendaguru and elsewhere had to be done. It puts the specimens that we palaeontologists now casually look at in museum collections into a very useful and at times frankly sobering context, and underlines the debt that we owe to those who recovered the material, often at the cost of their health or even their life.

Alan Turner

**THE FORGOTTEN FRONT** (The East African Campaign 1914-18), Ross Anderson, Tempus Publishing, ISBN 07522423444.pp.352, £25 hardback.

Ross Anderson's earlier book *The Battle of Tanga* 1914 was reviewed in *Tanzanian Affairs* No. 77. He has now continued his scholarly account of the war in East Africa to its conclusion in November 1918.

Following the disastrous attack on Tanga in November 1914, Field Marshall Kitchener, The Secretary of State for War, was anxious to avoid further setbacks. He told the British Commander in 1915 "You are entirely mistaken in supposing that offensive operations are necessary". While the Germans remained in firm control of their colony throughout 1915, the British had to be content with the sinking of the battle cruiser *Konigsberg* in the Rufiji delta.

The appointment of General Jan Smuts to command the British forces produced a dramatic change in the situation. The offensive he launched from Kenya in 1916, assisted by an attack by Belgian forces from the Congo, steady-

ly forced the German army under Colonel von Lettow Vorbeck to withdraw. Dar es Salaam, Kilwa and Lindi were captured in September and in January 1917 Smuts announced that the campaign was more or less finished, with only "mopping up" left.

Unfortunately the Germans showed no signs of readiness to be "mopped up". Von Lettow won several skirmishes against British forces (now mainly from Nigeria and the Gold Coast) and a separate column under Colonel Naumann roamed at will for eight months as far north as Moshi before being defeated near Dodoma. In November 1917 von Lettow avoided attempts to encircle him and slipped across the Ruvuma River into Portuguese East Africa (now Mozambique). Finally he moved into Northern Rhodesia in October 1918, and only surrendered on 13th November after learning of the Armistice in Western Europe. As a mark of respect for his dogged resistance the British allowed the German officers to retain their swords when they were repatriated to Germany.

Anderson gives some fascinating glimpses into the complicated political maneuvering behind the military campaign. The Belgians from the Congo were determined to annex Rwanda and Burundi and made an important contribution to the fighting, with their troops operating as far south as Njombe and Mahenge. On the other hand, the Portuguese forces were totally inadequate and von Lettow regarded their outposts not as obstacles but as useful sources of food and ammunition. When the Portuguese commander was recalled to Lisbon in disgrace, the Portuguese Government imprisoned him for two months, while the British Government, in the interests of bilateral relations, made him a Commander of the Bath (CB).

The general reader, without a detailed knowledge of East African geography, might sometimes find it difficult to follow the intricacies of the bush fighting, particularly as Anderson uses German place names like Bismarckberg and Wiedhafen without giving their English equivalents. The index could also be rather fuller. But the book as a whole gives a comprehensive and definitive survey of the "Forgotten Front" and deserves to be on the bookshelf of anyone interested in the military history of East Africa.

John Sankey

**UNDER THE GAZE OF THE 'BIG NATIONS': REFUGEES, RUMOURS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN TANZANIA.** Simon Turner. *African Affairs*. Vol. 103: 227-247.

In his exploration of Burundian refugees in Lukole camp in northwest Tanzania, Turner argues that while confinement in the camp alienates refugees from national (i.e., Tanzanian) socio-political processes and rights, their role as aid recipients has brought them closer to the international community. This exposure has, through rumour and conspiracy, led to international factors being insinuated into refugees' understanding of the roots of the conflict that has led to their displacement: Hutu refugees have positioned themselves as victims of a Tutsi plot endorsed and abetted by the international community (including Tanzania). Paradoxically, neither the refugees' extra-national status nor their suspicions of international actors have undermined their faith in the nation state or in the international community's ability to engender a peaceful future.

While borrowing heavily from post-modernists critiques of the nation-state and analytic divides between domestic and international affairs, Turner argues that these artificial constructs exert strong influence even among those most likely to question their ontological status. Turner supports his position through a review of how development and displacement provide the schematic foundations for national allegiances while drawing attention to ways in which everyday practices-rumor, economic exchange, displacement, and encampment-reproduce and naturalize refugees' shared history and ethno-national divisions. Through this analysis, and a review of United Nations operations and refugees' attitudes, he also counters facile charges that refugee camps serve as anomalous systems of governmentality removed from broader domestic trends and histories.

Although this is a significant analysis and contributes to restoring human agency to the displaced, one wonders if Turner has made too much of the rumours he encountered. There is little doubt that rumour and casual conversation are important in shaping refugees' perspectives and, presumably, actions. Indeed, the way in which Hutu refugees relate Monica Lewinsky's 'seduction' of Bill Clinton to the ways in which Tutsi women ostensibly elicited the allegiance of foreign powers is both comic and illustrates how all societies use familiar logics of causality, however specious, as metaphors for understanding the unknown. Similarly, Turner convincingly illustrates how

Hutu refugees' reliance on global conspiracy theories serves as a powerful (informal) tool for absolving domestic actors-including themselves-for their suffering. However, understanding the emergence of these conspiracies and their ontological power requires a broader analysis of the camps' political structures. While rumor is a mechanism through which conspiracy theories take form, they do not adequately explain the interests and motivations behind them. That said, Turner is unlikely to dispute the need to situate these rumours within a broader socio-political and historical context, as indeed he tries to do. Rather, he would justifiably argue that this article is intended merely to draw attention to the ways in which rumor and sub-altern discourse can transfigure or, as in this case, fortify, the national order of things.

Loren B. Landau

**AN AFFAIR WITH AFRICA** Tanganyika Remembered. Donald Barton. Authors Online Ltd, 40 Castle Street, Hereford, SG14 1HR. ISBN 0 7552 0122 1. Pp xii. 260. p/b. Available from the author at Christophers, Powntley Close, Alton, Hants, GU34 4DL. Tel. 01256 862630. £11.50 plus £1.50 postage. The author will donate £1.50 to the Britain Tanzania Society for each copy bought direct from him.

Memoirs by former Colonial Service officers replete with tales of witchcraft and exciting encounters with wildlife are not uncommon, and probably fairly easy to write. In this case the author goes much further and tries to answer such questions as "yes, but what did these chaps actually *do* for their living, and why and how did they do it?"

Don Barton joined the Colonial Administrative Service in 1951 and after attending the First Devonshire Course at Oxford was posted to Tanganyika in 1952, where he served until 1961. During that time he had postings in Manyoni, Kondoa, Lindi and Masasi and finally Ukerewe.

The author's feel for place results in vivid description, not just of views and sights, but of tastes and smells. That pervasive smell of bat droppings above ceilings, for example. He also shows us the day to day work of administration at District level, and the impetus which lay behind it, and gives a good insight into the diversity of matters with which young officers had to deal, including much which was routine or plain boring. This insight into the work of the

young District Officer gives the book an historical value which such memoirs do not always have. The reproduction of the letter from Julius Nyerere to the author, and presumably other officers, begging them to stay on after independence would alone give the book an historical interest.

There are interesting insights into family life. Very special qualities were needed by the wives of colonial service officers. The early years of their marriages were marked by long separations and the difficulties of bringing up young children in remote places. A lot could (and should?) be written about the way *they* spent their time.

The book is well illustrated. There are interesting and relevant photographs and attractive drawings by Don and his daughter, Nicola, as well as maps.

The author was initially attracted to the idea of a Colonial Service career by reading Kenneth Bradley's "Diary of a District Officer" at the age of sixteen. If there were still a Colonial Service this book would surely attract other youngsters to join it. As it is, it is a very enjoyable read, while being also a document of considerable historical interest. Thoroughly recommended.

J. C-P.

**DHOWS AND THE COLONIAL ECONOMY OF ZANZIBAR** 1860-1970. Oxford, James Currey. P/b viii+ 176 pp. ISBN 0 8214 1558 1. £15.95.

This is an interesting and pleasingly slim and accessible volume from a specialist East African Publisher, more often known for its longer and less penetrable works of scholarship. Erik Gilbert went to Tanzania to research a thesis on the effects of the caravan trade on nineteenth century farming. However, he came across supposedly extinct dhows being newly built, and decided that a much more interesting thesis topic would be to investigate the history of the dhow trade that had helped create an Indian Ocean world linking peoples and commodities from India, the Swahili coast, the Red Sea, Arabia and the Persian Gulf long before European steamers and officials arrived on the scene.

The "dhow trade" was to a large extent a creation of colonial ideas about modernity and tradition, Gilbert concludes, similar to Western constructs like "witchcraft". It sat ill alongside the modernising and regulating tendencies of colonial rule, particularly after the dhow's fateful association with the slave

trade gave it pariah status. Colonial officials, and most subsequent historians, repeatedly characterised the dhow trade as "dying out", yet it remained stubbornly alive. Though a new colonial economy based on steamships emerged in the later nineteenth century, the dhow trade survived, still essential in the carriage of goods around the Swahili coastal ports and linking the region to Arabia and India. Though Zanzibar ceased to be the capital of a commercial empire in the Western Indian Ocean, the dhow trade remained a prop to the local economy and critical to Zanzibar's well-being. Under colonial rule dhows had been expected by the British to wither on the vine as steamships took over, and dhow owners were prevented from carrying the export crops that colonial governments hoped would underwrite the future, like cotton, coffee, and sisal. But mangrove poles, dried shark, coconuts and salt were still hugely important staples, and the dhow continued to ship them. Dhows even experienced a significant revival during the second world war because of the dearth of shipping.

The end of colonial rule brought new challenges for the dhow trade, as governments fervently embraced modernisation. In 1979, however, dhows still carried nearly 30 per cent of Zanzibar's official cargo traffic.

This book will be enjoyed by anyone with an interest in Zanzibar's history, because its trading connections with a wide regional economy are so central to it.

Ashley Jackson

#### RECENT JOURNAL ARTICLES.

Beth-Elise Whitaker., "**Refugees and the Spread of Conflict: Contrasting Cases in Central Africa.**" *Journal of Asian and African Studies*. Vol. 38. #s 2-3, August 2003, pp. 211-231. Basic focus on the 1994 Rwandan refugee movements into eastern Congo as well as into western Tanzania, the first of which contributed to the outbreak of war in 1996 and 1998, while the Tanzanian experience was relatively peaceful.

Jim Igoe. "**Scaling Up Civil Society: Donor Money, NGOs and the Pastoralist Land Rights Movement in Tanzania.**" *Development and Change*. Vol. 34. #5, November 2002, pp. 863-885. Traces the complex evolution of traditional grazing land rights and the registration of pastoralist NGOs as the process moved through traditional cultural institutions to modern structures;

donor funding greatly influenced institutional behavior and outcomes.

Birgit Brock-Utne. "**The Language Question in Africa in the Light of Globalisation, Social Justice and Democracy.**" *International Journal of Peace Studies*. Vol. 8. #2, Autumn-Winter 2003, pp. 67-87. Focus on use of European languages in Tanzanian and South African institutions, noting conflicting trends that support globalization and the capitalist market economy as opposed to democratic patterns of behavior and social justice.

Siri Gloppen. "**The Accountability Function of the Courts in Tanzania and Zambia.**" *Democratization*. Vol. 10. #4, Winter 2003, pp.112-136. The courts in both Tanzania and Zambia tend to restrain their judicial authority to hold government accountable because the legal culture, the institutional structure, and the social legitimacy of the courts serve to minimize their willingness to challenge the executive.

Marion Doro

#### OTHER RECENT JOURNAL ARTICLES.

McCabe, J.T. **Sustainability and livelihood diversification among the Maasai of Northern Tanzania.** *Human Organisation*, 62(2), 2003, pp100-11.

Maoulidi, Salma. **The Sahiba Sisters Foundation in Tanzania: meeting organisational and community needs.** *Development*, 46(4), 2003 pp.85-92.

Mercer, C. **Performing partnership: civil society and the illusions of good governance in Tanzania.** *Political Geography*, 27(7), 2003, pp. 741-63.

Stiles, Erin E. **When is a divorce a divorce? Determining intention in Zanzibar's Islamic Courts.** *Ethnology*, 42(4), 2003, pp. 19-30.

Bonu, S., Rani, M. and Bishai, D. **Using unwillingness to pay to investigate regressiveness of user fees in health facilities in Tanzania.** *Health Policy and Planning*, 18(3), 2003, pp. 370-82.

## LETTERS

### MUHIMBILI HOSPITAL

Re the article in the *Economist*, extracts from which you published in your last issue, I have written a reply (*Among the points made in this reply were the following - Editor*):

Your article on market reforms in Tanzania's main teaching hospital attributes the blame for the sorry state of the hospital to the mistakes and errors of its former President, Julius Nyerere. I would suggest that this is inaccurate. I would further suggest that the lessons of the past need careful attention in order to avoid the potential further harm of market reforms.

The deterioration in health care services in Tanzania began in the late 1980s and 1990s. At that time, several factors combined to exert a major impact - declining commodity prices, loss of aid from the former Eastern Bloc countries, the growing impact of AIDS. But above all else, the health service was hit by the cost of debt servicing and the effects of Structural Adjustment Programmes on public sector spending. In 1990, Tanzania spent 4.2% of its GDP on debt servicing compared to 1.6% on health care. In consequence, the proportion of Muhimbili Hospital's budget estimate that was actually allocated by the Ministry of Health fell from 48% in 1990 to just 5% in 1996 - a year in which the actual non-staff budgetary allocation was cut by over 70% from the previous year.

Major health care reforms were introduced in 1993 to improve management, organisation and financing of the health care system. This led to the introduction of cost sharing and the growth of private health care provision. This private care was often provided by public health sector doctors trying to supplement salaries which had been frozen, at around \$100 per month, as part of the Structural Adjustment programmes.

The economic horizon is certainly looking brighter. The debt relief granted in 2001 has reduced the annual cost of debt servicing this year to around £130m, which is, nevertheless, a sum still around twice the recurrent budget for health care. Perhaps recognising the contribution of former strategies to the current problems, the World Bank/IMF Completion Point Document (2001) emphasised a change in approach towards investment in social programmes (including health care), rather than in purely export-oriented industries. If this permits the removal of the freeze on health workers' salaries, which has been in place for some 12 years, this might help stem the tide of emigrating doctors. But the

continuing emphasis on cost sharing continues to ignore numerous studies across Africa showing that such schemes reduce uptake, even of essential services such as sexual health and antenatal care, and that exemptions are not implemented. Moreover, in consequence of continuing investment in health care as loans, rather than grants, Tanzania's debt burden is predicted to increase by over 70% in the next five years, with continuing drain on government revenue.

The Economist article is right to say that there is little information on the impact of the reforms on the lives and health of ordinary Tanzanians. This will need careful monitoring.

Professor John S Yudkin MD FRCP,  
Director, International Health and Medical Education Centre,  
University College, London

### CAN WE TRUST OPINION POLLS?

The cloud hanging over Tanzanian's presidential succession as viewed by Dr. Hildebrand Shayo in his article in the last issue entitled 'Who will be the next President' is growing darker, particularly following a recent public opinion poll published by local newspapers - *The Express* no. 352 of 22nd July 2004 - under the title 'People speak out.' (See the article above on election predictions - Editor).

Views expressed by the author suggest correctly that the as yet unborn CCM candidate for the presidency stands the best chance of retaining the presidency because he/she faces a desperately fragmented opposition and enjoys the benefits of incumbency, including state largesse that can be deployed during electioneering.

I think Dr. Shayo should be aware that public opinion polls, which are popular in the West, have not gained widespread acceptance in developing countries and in Tanzania in particular. And, for the few who even give it a moment's thought, an opinion poll is essentially viewed as a way to draw public attention and influence public perceptions. Shortly after Tanzania reverted to multiparty politics after 1995, a number of hurriedly conducted 'polls' started to appear in local magazines, ostensibly to determine the most popular issues. But unlike the polls in developed countries, which are relatively reliable and indicative of voting trends, many of the Tanzanian polls are arbitrary and differ

significantly in their forecasts.

A major blemish is their outright bias in favor of particular candidates and a mischievous disregard for universally accepted research methods. The projections too are subjective and unreliable in determining who will be the presidential candidates. Opinion polls are simply a picture in time, the static measure of a dynamic entity. A proper poll must therefore first identify target respondents based on issues to be investigated. It must have a properly developed sample frame and appropriate sample sizes if the margins of error are to be acceptable.

Tanzania has gone through several developmental phases since independence 40 years ago. Factors like the rapid development in newsgathering and communication technologies and a growing civic awareness have also served immensely to weaken government control over the media and, in turn, opinion polls are flourishing. The result of all this is that issues like corruption, security, unemployment, economic growth and the environment have moved to the forefront of political debate.

But if the frequency of opinion polls has changed radically over the years, perceptions have not. Nor has the accompanying civic awareness brought about by these polls changed the public's way of viewing and prioritizing issues. Tanzanians still consider personality and location to be of more importance in candidates and party preference than economic or social issues *per se*. The result? Even the most scientific of opinion polls are not of much use, not even in the civilized world.

William Mrema  
Visitor, London South Bank University.

### HISTORICAL TIDYING-UP

I served in Tanganyika from 1955 to '64 and am writing to ask if any of your readers might help me with a minor piece of historical-tidying up. When serving in Geita in 1959 we received from the railway workshops in Morogoro a very solid bronze plaque commemorating Mackay and other members of the Church Missionary Society which I duly fixed in the little graveyard just to the south of Emin Pasha Gulf. It had a masonry base and backing and steel uprights buried several feet. I took some photographs and am wondering what happened to them.

Paul Fabian (Tel: 01892-513805)



**RESEARCH FINDINGS**

I like your editorialship of 'Tanzanian Affairs' for the informative and inspirational issues it gives us every three months. I especially enjoy the pondering on socio-economic and political issues because I love seeing pressure groups and donors with goodwill getting to understand more the inside of Tanzania in its true colours.

Having said this, could we have extra pages to report on research-based findings from field research work in Tanzania? Could this make Tanzania Affairs more interesting in bringing academic and practitioner issues together?

Dr Hildebrand Shayo  
hshayo2000@yahoo.co.uk

*I regret that we cannot have extra pages because of financial and time constraints but I accept that, if we receive the necessary information and, provided it is presented succinctly, we should publish more on research findings - Editor.*

**ONLY 2,905!**

I was brought down to earth with a thump when I read in 'Miscellany' in the last issue that only 2,905 pupils (8.4%) were selected from the 34,740 who sat for standard seven examinations to join government secondary schools in Dar es Salaam region last year. I had been reading quite encouraging political news and the IMF's praise for macro-economic stability and structural reforms in Tanzania but now I discover that there are 31,835 young people at a loose end because they are refused secondary education. No doubt some of these young people will apply to private schools or technical institutions or take up correspondence courses. We need further statistics to show the true picture. I wonder if young people are being given the attention they deserve.

Could we have more news in TA about the educational facilities available to post-primary school young men and women please.

Christine Lawrence

*I cannot confirm whether the figures given were correct, but World Bank statistics show a similar story, with overall in Tanzania 54% net school enrolment at Primary level in 2001 (gross 70% including students of all ages). This falls to 5% (gross 6%) for secondary school enrolment, with under 1% entering tertiary level education. These figures are worse than 1985 levels, but show*

*a slight improvement over the 1995 figures.  
(source <http://devdata.worldbank.org/edstats> )*

*The following figures cover Tanzania as a whole for admissions from Form Four (what used to be called O'level) to Form Five (ie A' level). A total of 11,123 students (18.8%) were selected to join Form Five in government high schools, technical training colleges and the Rwegalurira Water College. Minister for Education, Joseph Mungai, said that a total of 59,165 students sat for Form Four exams. The number of students who met minimal requirements for possible selection to the above mentioned institutions was 22,001, representing a 35 per cent rise from last year's total of 16,283 students.*

*However, the Minister explained that only 50 per cent of the 22,2001 candidates had been enrolled in government institutions, with the remaining 10,878 students missing places due to a shortfall in vacancies caused by a shortage of qualified teachers. He revealed that a reserve list of 2,496 students had been prepared, with 1,130 of those on the list expected to fill Form Five places that would be made available upon completion of ongoing rehabilitation of boarding high schools. The rest would fill any other places that fell vacant, he said. He added that the selection of the students was based solely on merit. A further 9,493 students had also been selected to join teacher training colleges - Editor.*

**THANK YOU**

Reading in your issue No 78 the well-deserved tribute to the BTS 'mob' and all the contributors to Tanzania Affairs by H.E. Dr Abdul Shareef MP, Deputy Minister for Foreign and Affairs and International Cooperation, who was Tanzanian High Commissioner in London at the time that I was British High Commissioner in Dar es Salaam, I am inspired to add my own thanks to you all for bringing regular news of Tanzania's affairs to the small corner of the Caribbean where I am now serving. I am delighted thus to be kept so well in touch!

Perhaps Emma and I could also use your column to send our best wishes to you and many old friends.

Bruce Dinwiddy  
Governor, Cayman Islands

**WANTED - RUGBY PLAYERS**

I am currently looking for people who have a link with Tanzania who play or have an interest in Rugby. I have been in touch with the Tanzania Rugby Union about starting an exiles team here in the U.K. whose role would be to help boost playing numbers. Currently they have three teams in Dar es Salaam, Moshi and Arusha. They have also become associate members of the International Rugby Board. Could the Society please publish this appeal for any interested parties in the U.K. who are eligible to play for Tanzania through birth or parents even grandparents and would like to set up a team to either play or help collect equipment to send to schools and clubs to help develop the game in Tanzania. My link is that my father was born in Tanzania. I have found it quite hard to find other second or third generation Tanzanians in the UK. There was a small article in the July (I think) edition of 'Rugby World' which talks about rugby in Tanzania.

Linus Mortlock

**DR SHAYO IS HONEST BUT.....**

The article by Dr Shayo carried in Tanzanian Affairs number 78 entitled "Who will be the next President" explains the real dilemma which Tanzanians face in their road down to the next general election. Since the policy over presidential candidate nomination has been changed by the party, campaigners can now compare themselves with the other candidates - something which did not happen before. The article further claimed that the traditional electoral practices where everything was subject to party bureaucracy were not good, fails to make clear the real gains that have been made. Within CCM there is now greater accountability and transparency than ever before. Classlessness is gaining ground.

A candidate becomes the choice of many within the party when his personality suggests that he will win the election. Dr Shayo, do you think the CCM machinery is not aware of what happened in Kenya where KANU was put aside for a change?

The article's claim that Tanzanians are befuddled about who is to be the next president is not true. The CCM constitution and even the views of other parties are not the only things which will decide amongst the potential candidates you

have analysed. Neither a group of a few influential individuals within the party nor a few individuals within the increasingly weak opposition has the right to assign to Tanzanians their destiny.

The article attempts to explain the need for CCM to capitalise on new blood for the future if it intends to win. Tanzania could benefit a lot from your views and analysis. I am sure CCM would like to have you as a young blood in the party.

Fidelis Macha

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**Marion Doro** is Professor emerita of Government at Connecticut College, New London USA. She was Professor of Political Science at the University of Dar es Salaam in 1995.

**Dr Ashley Jackson.** Mansfield College, Oxford. Has a special interest in the history of the British Empire, African History and the Indian Ocean. Author of "Botswana 1939-45: An African Country at War" (OUP) and "War and Empire in Mauritius and the Indian Ocean" (Macmillan). Currently writing "The British Empire and the Second World War".

**Jacob Knight** worked at Mazengo School, Dodoma as a physics teacher with VSO from 1991 to 1994. He is now a consulting engineer with Ove Arup and Partners in London but regularly visits Tanzania.

**Loren B. Landau** is Acting Director and Research Co-ordinator, Forced Migration Studies programme, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

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