New President’s Remarkable First 100 Days
The New Cabinet
Elections - The Aftermath
The Walking Dream
An Intelligent Swahili Dictionary
KIKWETE’S REMARKABLE FIRST 100 DAYS

A whirlwind! A phenomenon! A sensation! Unparalleled! Many words and phrases have been used to describe President Jakaya Kikwete’s first 100 days in office. He has made a great impression and has added to the popularity he had already gained as indicated by his 80% success in the 2005 elections. Former Prime Minister and CCM stalwart, Mzee Rashid Kawawa showered the president with praise saying he was “offering the kind of leadership Tanzanians had wanted for a long time.”

President Kikwete waited many years to attain the highest office in the land. But when he finally attained it, he wasted no time. In the first few days after his installation he attended both a Muslim celebration and the consecration of a protestant bishop while his newly appointed Prime Minister was opening a Catholic school. He told his new cabinet that they could remain in their positions for five years but only if they delivered. People seemed delighted by the energy and drive with which he launched his presidency.

His election had been accompanied by much bad news - more than 16 armed robberies had been reported; there was widespread drought and food shortages which seriously affected electricity supplies in Dar es Salaam and other centres.

This is a summary of his first hyper-active 100 days:

He began by visiting all the ministries in Dar es Salaam and lecturing the ministers and their staff on what he expected from them. He told his Minister of Lands to take legal steps to enforce the Dar City Plan and stop unlawful construction in Masaki – Mwananchi.

He warned corrupt public servants that his government would offer zero tolerance. His government would not be curtailed by the law in disposing of public servants implicated in graft.

At the Ministry of Agriculture he said that it was a shame for Tanzania to lag behind countries like Vietnam, Indonesia and Thailand that had started economic reforms in 1986. “While they made an agrarian revolution we stick to the hand hoe that is mentioned in the Old Testament.”

cover photo: President Kikwete (right) and Prime Minister Edward Lowassa
He said now that Songosongo gas had reached Dar es Salaam and there
was plenty of phosphate at Minjingu and Manyara there was no reason
why the country couldn't manufacture fertilizer itself instead of import-
ing it from Jordan and elsewhere. Kikwete said that the Maasai were
traditional cattle herders but were now flocking to urban areas to work
as security guards. At the Kongwa cattle ranch, the number of stock
had fallen from 10,000 to only 3,000 “How can this country, with 18
million cattle, be a net importer of milk and butter?” he asked. He told
the civil servants to stop sitting in their offices enjoying fat salaries and
allowances and to go to the countryside and rescue the country from
backward farming – *Nipashe*.

At the **Ministry of Natural Resources** Kikwete gave the staff three
months to resolve the problems that have been dogging the Tanzania
Fishing Corporation (TAFICO). “If it collapses so will you” he snapped.
Minister Anthony Diallo lost no time in sacking or moving five officers
to other posts after he revealed that hunting blocks had been ‘dubiously
sold’. The Acting Director of Forestry who was said to have licensed
illegal logging was moved to another post.

At the **Ministry of Trade and Industry**, President Kikwete gave the
officials six months to make sure that Tanzania had an industrial and
trading plan in place. “When I return to you in six months I want to see
something concrete and not just reports” he warned.

The President directed the **Minister for Lands and Human Settlements**
to put his house in order within six months and sack immediately all
those who were found responsible for double allocation of plots. The
Prevention of Corruption Bureau (PCB) was reported in *Mwananchi* to
have been grilling two Mwanza city officials over allocation of 16 plots
to one businessman. The President said that, where title deeds had been
issued to more than one person, their signatories should be fired and
they should be reported to the PCB immediately. He went on: “This
ministry has been completely disregarding the laws of the land as if
there were no government in place.” Minister John Magufuli said that,
since entering the ministry, he had been receiving about 100 complaints
from the public every day. In most cases the complaints were against
dishonest officials in his ministry.

The President ordered the **Ministry of Education** to reinstate the
At the Ministry of Higher Education the President ruled out the possibility of the government granting scholarships for students pursuing education in private and foreign universities, because of financial constraints. “We can not use the meagre funds from the Higher Learning Education Scholarship Board to sponsor someone who opts for Oxford” he said. The president said some universities, especially overseas, charged exorbitant fees.

He ordered the new Minister for Water, Stephen Wassira, to tell Dar es Salaam residents the truth about perennial water woes the city was experiencing - Guardian.

At the Ministry of Health, the President criticised existing health policies as unworkable and directed the ministry to review them immediately. They provided for the construction of dispensaries and health centres in areas or villages with a population of between 10,000 and 50,000 people, an approach the President said was unrealistic. “This forces people in remote areas of the country to travel long distances in search of health services” he said.

The President issued instructions to the Minister of Natural Resources that the Ihefu Wetland area of the Usangu Game Reserve must be cleared of livestock. The Reserve had been accommodating 400,000 cattle - with resultant destruction of the environment and hence a reduction in the amount of water flowing to the Great Ruaha River, (which serves the vital Mtera dam). Livestock keepers were issued with a seven-day ultimatum for them to move away. The local DC later reported that livestock were being moved and slowly the wetlands would be restored to their natural state - Guardian.

At the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) he complained about ineptitude at the Dar es Salaam Port. “At Durban port” he said “it takes less than three days to clear cargo, but here in Dar it can take up to 12 days.” He added that Malawian and Zambian users would rather pay for the long distances to Durban than be subjected to the lethargy at Dar port and that Burundian and Rwandan business persons preferred Mombasa because of the poor infrastructure in Tanzania – East African.
President Kikwete warned local councils to stop protecting dishonest officials and be ready to throw them out. Kikwete said that from now onwards councillors should see to it that money was spent as budgeted.

In a major reshuffle of Regional Commissioners eleven were dropped and nine were retained and moved to other regions. The President also appointed three new women RCs while dropping one. The new team included seven ex military officers and three doctors – Nipashe.

Kikwete also announced that, in future, government leaders would be referred to as ‘honourable’ rather than as ‘excellencies’. He promised to maintain the use of the portraits of the founding father of the nation on currency notes and coins. The President also stopped the use of school children to hand out bouquets and scarves to government leaders when they disembark from planes or vehicles or attend public functions.

*Majira* reported that the President, after stopping to greet a disabled person in a Dar street, had given him TShs 10,000.

**PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS AND INCENTIVES**

As civil servants reeled under the constant attacks on the probity of some amongst them, it was announced that government officers would be required to sign ‘Performance Contracts’ with effect from July this year. The aim was to increase efficiency and control expenditure at all administrative levels. This would enable the government to evaluate civil servants’ responsibilities and develop a strategy to attain targeted development goals. After announcing this to parliament, the new Prime Minster received a standing ovation from MP’s. He said it was time to change the way the government had traditionally transacted its business to a more pragmatic style that would guarantee quality service delivery to the public. Government duties would have to be carried out decisively, promptly and successfully; there was a need for trustworthy and accountable public servants, he said. Explaining the ‘Performance Contract’ the PM said that the objective was to set standards on time taken and money spent on development plans. This would help the government to decide who to reward after meeting the objectives and who to punish for being irresponsible. In Arusha some officials had misused the relief food supplies provided by the government and sold
Public officials accused of financial mismanagement by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) will henceforth be liable to disciplinary action before the report is tabled before parliament. The Deputy Minister for Finance, Mustafa Mkullo, said the power is vested in his minister by virtue of the government Directive number 15 of July last year. Mkullo said the government decided to issue the directive so as to give the CAG teeth to perform better the task of auditing public expenditures. He said this was just the first step and that more directives would be given as and when the need arose.

REVEALING FURTHER MISDEMEANOURS

Encouraged by the President’s clearly stated intention to curb corruption the press began to reveal all sorts of other misdemeanours. Examples:

TShs 21.6 million paid to 251 ghost workers in Zanzibar’s Health Ministry – Mtanzania.

The payment by the Works Ministry of TShs 375 million for work not done in Dodoma – Mwananchi.

The payment by the Health Ministry of TShs 85 million for medicines not delivered – Nipashe.

TShs 16.8 billion stolen in bank raids since January 2005 – Majira.

The Tanganyika Investment and Oil Transport (TIOT) found to be involved in massive tax evasion: it was instructed to deposit a bond equal to the amount demanded by the Tanzania Revenue Authority - Majira

CRIME AND THE POLICE

President Kikwete has created a whole new ministry - the Ministry of Public Safety and Security - for dealing with crime and other security matters. He said that the police had made such a poor show of their job that there was talk to the effect that the force was colluding with criminals.

The East African reported that, before President Kikwete declared his
war on banditry, robbers had begun to mock his election campaign slogan - ‘new vigour, new enthusiasm, new speed’ by repeating it during their armed raids on premises. Taking his cue from the President, Minister of Public Safety and Security Brian Mwapachu vowed that the government would adopt a ‘shoot-to-kill’ strategy if need be. On January 14, gunmen ignored these warnings and robbed two premises selling gems in Dar es Salaam in broad daylight. The police sprang into action. But then it turned out that these policemen were themselves using the crackdown on crime to mount their own robbery. The three gem dealers from Mahenge were dead. This led the President to appoint an inquiry commission on January 24, chaired by Justice Mussa Kipenka. On February 17, the commission handed its findings to the President who immediately ordered the arrest of the 15 police officers involved.

Next, it was reported that a document had been handed to the Minister of Public Safety, as he entered the parliament building, by two junior police officers in plain clothes. It alleged that a prominent private businessman was involved in violent crime and that they had tried to arrest him several times but he had been released by their boss.

In late January armed gangsters staged a daring robbery at the West Bureau de Change near the clock tower in Dar. The Guardian reported that the suspected robbers posed as customers and accomplished their mission without being noticed by passers-by. One of them brandished a pistol and threatened to shoot the security guard while the other two briefly took hostage the cashier and customers inside the shop, as the third smashed the glass window in front of the cashier’s desk and got inside. The robbers left the scene without being suspected by those outside the shop. Customers inside the bureau had been ordered to surrender their cash and valuables.

Four armed robbers got away with more than TShs 300 million from the Standard Chartered Bank in Dar es Salaam on March 8 at 9 am. The money belonged to agents for the Vodacom cellular phone company and had been brought in to be deposited.

Media reports on alleged dishonesty among Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) executives sparked off a full investigation. The Minister for Finance, instructed the Commissioner General of the TRA to take stern
measures. Some of the officials were said to have resigned before the axe fell on them. They were said to own fleets of vehicles, houses and other properties. Their bank accounts were also frozen - *Tanzania Daima*.

**NEW INSPECTOR GENERAL**

Meanwhile the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Omar Mahita got himself into very hot water. He stated publicly that the Civic United Front (CUF) opposition party was behind some of the violent crime wave. He made things worse by saying that CUF would never come to power while he remained as IGP.

The opposition in parliament immediately protested to the government and on February 20 thousands of supporters of the CUF, CHADEMA and TLP parties staged a huge demonstration in Dar es Salaam urging President Kikwete to sack the IGP. As the clamour grew Mahita decided to retire. He did so on March 4 when he reached the age of 60. The Guardian reported him as saying that he wouldn’t become a politician in retirement but rather hoped to venture into farming and livestock keeping in his home region Morogoro.

On March 7 President Kikwete appointed Said Ally Mwema, 53, as the new IGP and Sungura Manumba, 53, as the new Director of Criminal Investigations. Mwema had been Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) in charge of the Interpol Sub-Regional Bureau in Nairobi and was, before that, a Regional Crime Officer. His appointment was praised by all parties and the general public. The President also made a major reshuffle in the police force, promoting some senior officials and appointing new ones. He designated Dar es Salaam as a Special Police Zone with three regional police districts.

**DIRECT CONTACT, MOTIVATION AND TRANSPARENCY**

The new IGP lost no time in springing into action. On April 6 he published in the press the office, residential and cellphone telephone numbers of Regional Police Commanders (RPC’s) all over the country (plus his own!) so that the public would be able to contact senior officers directly about crime. The objective was also to ‘create a sense of transparency.’

A few days later, according to the Swahili press, some people began
making hoax calls, some at ‘ungodly’ hours, ranging from life threats to intimate advances. However, several RPC’s reported that they had been provided with useful information. Morogoro RPC, Steven Ngowi, said he got information leading to the arrest of eight suspected criminals with firearms. Also, one village officer was arrested on charges of stealing bags of cement.

The government has also set aside TShs 3bn to motivate the police force. The money would also be used to settle arrears in police allowances that had been outstanding for many years.

The IGP also announced that the police, in collaboration with the CRDB Bank and Bank of Tanzania (BoT), had set up a special fund amounting to TShs 43m to reward people who furnished it with information leading to the arrest of criminals.

POLICE ACTION AGAINST CRIME

Among many other actions the IGP suspended the Tarime District Police Commander – Mtanzania.

Some 30 persons, most of them businessmen, were picked up in Dar es Salaam and Kilimanjaro in March. One was a Tanzanian of Asian descent suspected of being involved in a network of criminal activities including car thefts and armed robbery. Two of them were taken to court where they were accused of being ‘dangerous’ to society as they had sponsored criminal gangs – Mwananchi.

Police arrested 18 businessmen in Manyara on organised crime charges - Tanzania Daima.

Seven businessmen were arrested in Mererani – Nipashe.

Eight businessmen were arrested in Morogoro on robbery charges - Majira.

Police arrested a number of businessmen and officials in Babati over the possession of stolen cars - Tanzania Daima.

A businessman, a contractor and an engineer were charged with defrauding TANROADS – Nipashe.
NEW PRIME MINISTER ACTS IN SUPPORT

Prime Minister Edward Lowassa soon entered into the spirit of the new regime by taking some pretty tough action himself. Examples:

He suspended the Executive Director of Same District Council for ‘failing’ to distribute in time relief food to starving people. Other officials failing to distribute relief food were warned that they would be dismissed - *Nipashe*

He directed the Ministry of Energy and Minerals to revoke mining licences issued to quarrying firms in the Kunduchi/Mtongano area of Dar es Salaam to save the environment from imminent destruction.

He suspended the Temeke Municipal Engineer for turning a blind eye to the construction of a four-storey building that had collapsed. The developer didn’t have the proper documentation for the construction which was undertaken shoddily. Some bodies were recovered from the rubble.

But then the PM appeared to take too far. In action slightly reminiscent of the slum clearance operation by Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, young street vendors, who try to scratch a living from sales of goods in the street, were driven away. However, reported *Mwananchi*, so violent was the reaction from the vendors in Mwanza that two people died and many were injured before anti-riot police quelled the violence with tear gas. Kiosks were also demolished and vendors removed in Dar es Salaam on March 9 when, according to the Swahili press, some 25 residents were injured and one was feared dead following street battles between National Service (JKT) youngsters employed by the ‘S-Group’ security firm, on behalf of the City Council, and touts at commuter bus stands. The JKT youths called for reinforcements from their camp and started hitting out at all and sundry, including drivers, passengers and passers-by. The matter was brought under control after the anti-riot police (FFU) took over the streets. The PM then said he was halting the operation to allow local authorities and vendors alike more time to prepare for the change. Later, 36 JKT servicemen appeared in court on charges of conspiracy, causing grievous bodily harm and criminal damage to property.

CRITICISM

Some opposition leaders criticised the performance of the new govern-
ment saying it had failed to lived up to its slogan of “New zeal, new vigor and new pace”. Radical TLP leader Augustine Mrema asked “How about the big shots? The crackdown on economic crimes does not make sense if well known and corrupt officials are left untouched….it was unfair to arrest 30 businessmen suspected to be involved in organised crime without taking action against the key players who had been assisting them” he said.

Dr Sengondo Mvungi, who contested the presidency on the NCCR-Mageuzi ticket in the election, said that the new government had lost direction in the implementation of development programmes. “How can you wake up in the morning and start issuing directives, suspending officials and stopping businesses just like that. Certain procedures must be followed….At the Kunduchi Quarry some of the licensed mining firms and individuals had signed contracts with clients to supply stones. How do you stop the activities and revoke licences just like that? Before making such sensitive decisions which affect the lives of many people, the government had to find an alternative site for the miners and mining firms,” Dr Mvungi said.

But CHADEMA National Chairman Freeman Mbowe lauded President Kikwete for the “positive and commendable” achievements recorded in the few days he had been in office. Mbowe said the new government had demonstrated its readiness to address major problems such as those dogging the Union; the political crisis in Zanzibar; controversy surrounding mining contracts; rampant corruption and gender imbalance in the government. Freeman Mbowe denied that he was planning to rejoin CCM though he would continue attending state functions if invited. The Chairman of CHADEMA was talking to Tanzanians living in Britain at a meeting held at the Holiday Inn in London. Mbowe was in the country to attend a Conservative Party conference in Manchester. “Politics to me is not a profession. I am a businessman and will remain one. I am in politics to serve my people. It is a call.” Explaining the reason why he accepted the election results last year he said that if there was rigging it was due to the opposition’s weakness and should be taken as a lesson for the next elections in 2010. On the likelihood of opposition parties fielding a single presidential candidate, Mbowe said that his party had formed an alliance with NCCR in 1995 and with CUF in 2000, but in both cases it was fruitless.
The President has appointed his long standing friend Edward Lowassa (52) MP for Monduli as Prime Minister. The East African described Lowassa as a fearless, hardworking man. His name was endorsed in parliament on December 29 by 312 votes against two. The opposition leader in the House, Hamad Rashid Mohamed (CUF) said the opposition welcomed Mr Lowassa’s appointment and that “We expect him to continue performing to the best possible standards….. Mr Lowassa has a good record. His performance speaks for itself.” Mr Lowassa is a CCM insider, having served it through various posts from regional assistant party secretary to head of department at CCM headquarters in Dodoma between 1977 and 1989. Recently, Mr Lowassa emerged as a tough negotiator for Tanzanian interests when he terminated a contract with City Water Services, a foreign company contracted to enhance water services in Dar es Salaam and its environs. He also negotiated a settlement of a long-running dispute with Egypt over the use of Lake Victoria waters. He has occupied numerous ministerial posts.

The President made many changes when he formed his government in January but was widely criticized for increasing the number of ministries from 19 to 22. He established seven new full ministries and two new state ministries while dropping three from the previous government. He said that critical issues like water had to be put under one ministry and he had also formed a new ministry to cater for East African co-operation affairs. The Home Affairs Ministry had been relieved of responsibility for the police (taken over by a new Ministry of Public Security) and would now concentrate on immigration, prisons and fire fighting. The new Ministry for Infrastructure Development took on all the activities of the former Works Ministry and those of the Communications and Transport Ministry. Activities of the former Co-operatives and Marketing Ministry were transferred to two new ministries, Agriculture and Food Security (for Co-operatives issues) and Industry, Trade and Marketing (for marketing). The former Ministry of Water and Livestock Development had been split into two – a Ministry of Water and a Ministry of Livestock Development. The Planning Department, formerly in the president’s, became the Ministry of Planning, Economy and Empowerment. The ministry would also be in charge of poverty reduction - previously under the Vice-President’s office. Another ministry was for Information,
Culture and Sports which took over the activities previously under the Prime Minister’s office and the Labour, Youth Development and Sports Ministry. The Ministry of Labour now remained with two principle activities - overseeing labour matters and creating more jobs for the youths under a special Department of Youth Development. Vocational Training has been added to the Ministry of Education, while the cultural aspect had been shifted to the new ministry of Information, Culture and Sports - Guardian.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES

Fourteen of the 26 ministers in former President Mkapa’s government were excluded from the new Cabinet including Charles Keenja, (Agriculture), George Kahama (Co-operatives), Philemon Sarungi (Defence), Daniel Yona (Energy), Anna Abdallah (Health), Omar Mapuri (Home Affairs), Gideon Cheyo (Lands), Pius Ng’wandu (Higher Education), Hassan Ngwilizi. (State, President’s Office, Regional Administration and Local Government), Dr Abdallah Kigoda (State, President’s Office, Planning and Privatisation) and Wilson Masilingi (State, President’s Office, Good Governance).

Andrew Chenge, Attorney General in the previous government, is the new Minister of East African Co-operation Affairs while Zakia Meghji became Finance Minister after previously holding the Natural Resources and Tourism portfolio.

The new Cabinet has a total of 6 full and 10 Deputy Women Ministers. This is a big increase from the 2000 cabinet in which, out of the 27 Ministers and 17 Deputies, there were only 4 full and 4 deputy women Ministers.

IRIN published the names of the 29 ministers and 31 deputy ministers with the highest number of women the country has had since independence - seven ministers and 10 deputy ministers.

CABINET MEMBERS:

Vice-President: Ali Mohamed Shein
Prime Minister: Edward Lowassa
Zanzibar President: Amani Abeid Karume
Foreign Affairs: Asha-Rose Migiro
Tanzania’s climate remains harsh. At the beginning of the year famine was reported in several areas of the country and in February President Kikwete said the government would reduce the budgets of some ministries, if need be, to import food for hungry people. The President announced in February that he was going to hire electrical generators to relieve the shortage of electricity. He said that power shortages were critical, and daily rationing had been increased from 8 to 16 hours. He pointed out that this was because water levels at the Mtera and Kidatu dams had dropped due to the continuing drought. As the impact of the power rationing continued to be felt across the country, the public has expressed concern over a government ban on use of charcoal in urban areas. But two months later, after heavy rain, the dams started to refill and the severe electricity cuts in Dar were eased.
ELECTION CERTIFICATES

The Tanzania Election Monitoring Committee (TEMCO) issued in March two election certificates on the 2005 general election – a ‘clean, free and fair certificate’ for the elections on the mainland and a ‘qualified’ free and fair certificate for the Zanzibar elections. Extracts from the report, quoted in the Guardian:

‘On the mainland the voting, vote counting and declaration of results were carried out in consonance with the electoral law and regulations. The National Electoral Commission and most of its staff demonstrated a high degree of integrity, competency and an acceptable level of impartiality and accountability,”

In Zanzibar, where people ‘really mean politics’, the process was done with a lot of strain not only on the voting day but also during the whole electoral process that included registration, voters’ education, the campaigns, the voting itself, the counting of the votes and the announcement of the results. While on the mainland almost all the electoral processes were done democratically and peacefully, in Zanzibar registration, voting and counting of votes was done under strict security…. The opposition parties argued that the elections were not free and fair because the playing ground was not level.’

Wilfred Lwakatare from the Civic United Front (CUF), who stood for parliament in the Bukoba Urban Constituency, said that elections in Tanzania meant dealing with the police force and intelligence. In past elections there had been some irregularities including stealing of votes, which had been obvious, and the election observers had been used to justify the stealing.

The Director of Elections in the NCCR-Mageuzi, Mgeta Bakoma, said that the elections were not free and fair because people were threatened that if they voted for the opposition there would be problems in the country as had happened in Rwanda and Burundi.

COMPOSITION OF THE PARLIAMENTS

With the addition of special seats for women and other nominated MP’s the final composition of the 323-member National Assembly in Dodoma includes:
The Assembly now has 97 women - 75 from the special seats group, 17 were elected in constituencies, 3 are Presidential appointees and there are 2 elected by the Zanzibar House of Representatives. Tanzania has therefore passed the SADC target of 30% women MP’s, the third African country to do so (the others being South Africa and Mozambique). In 2000, the percentage of women in the Assembly was only 21.5% or 63 in number.

The composition of the Zanzibar House of Representatives is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCM</td>
<td>30 elected plus 4 special seats for women plus 10 nominated seats plus 5 regional commissioners plus the Attorney General.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUF</td>
<td>19 plus 4 special seats for women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared</td>
<td>1 (by-election pending).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The local council elections were held at the same time as the presidential and parliamentary elections. The results were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>No of wards won</th>
<th>% age of total vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCM</td>
<td>2,375</td>
<td>93.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUF</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHADEMA</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TLP</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UDP</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCCR-Mageuzi</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPT Maendeleo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PEMBANS LEAD OPPOSITION IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The Civic United Front (CUF) is entitled, because it has more than 30 seats in the National Assembly, to appoint the leader of the opposition and promptly did so, on January 15. It also announced a 22-member CUF shadow cabinet.

The other opposition parties were not happy with this arrangement. John Cheyo, leader of the UDP, said it was unfair for the opposition in the Union Assembly, which mainly discusses matters concerning people on the mainland (population 32 million), to be officially recognised as ‘the opposition’ when it was largely composed of MP’s from the tiny island of Pemba (population half a million). It meant that there would be virtually no official spokespersons for the opposition from the mainland in parliament. According to Cheyo, efforts to convince CUF to rethink its decision had proved futile.

The Chairman of CHADEMA, Freeman Mbowe, was in Britain in early April at the invitation of the Conservative Party. He attended the Party’s annual conference in Manchester and subsequently made a speech in London and spoke to the press. He said that CHADEMA, following the experience it had gained in the nation wide campaign it had conducted during the 2005 elections (see TA No 83), would be better positioned for a major battle with CCM in the next elections in 2010. This was Mbowe’s second foreign trip since the general elections last year. He made a two-week visit to Norway and Germany in early February.

FORMER PRESIDENT MKAPA

The national CCM chairman, former President Benjamin Mkapa, has announced that he will relinquish this post one year before his term officially ends so that President Kikwete can fully supervise the implementation of the party’s election manifesto – Nipashe.

Attempts are being made to revamp the party’s Central Committee (CC) according to Rai. The Kikwete group was said to be focussing on 2015 when the President would finish two terms. The composition of the CC
would be important then to ensure that the baton was passed to the ‘right person.’ For this it would be desirable to have more of Kikwete’s ministers inside the CC which is due for re-election next year. At present only eight ministers and three deputy ministers are CC members. The CC has 36 members, 17 of them from Zanzibar.

INSTRUCTIONS TO MP’S

The MPs have been told that it is a mistake to identify themselves as ‘Honourable’ especially on their ID cards but the title could be used by others when communicating with them.

The Chief of Protocol, Ambassador Cisco Mtiro, said also that if there was any need for them to speak to foreign diplomats then the diplomats should call on the MPs in their offices and not the other way round. “When you meet them, be careful about what you say. Don’t reveal ‘internal’ matters, especially with those diplomats who claim to be from the ‘citadel of democracy.’” He said experience had shown that some of these diplomats did not have good intentions towards the country. That was why former President Mkapa had had to put a stop to an official of the British High Commission who used to chase Zanzibar matters and ‘distort’ them. He also said that the US Ambassador had criticised the Zanzibar elections and had been summoned to the Foreign Ministry and had had to apologise. He warned them to take care while attending official functions locally or overseas by being discreet in their talk and behaviour. “Don’t imitate foreign culture by kissing while greeting, and don’t humiliate yourselves in their presence,” Mtiro advised the MPs.

ZANZIBAR AFTER THE ELECTIONS

Several CCM and CUF Members of the Zanzibar House of Representatives joined forces in January to call for an end to political confrontation on the Isles and for more concentration on development.

The Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC) said that complaints among the losers were common and that, during the election, they said that everything had been OK. But, on election day, when they realised that they had lost the election, everything went wrong.

Among the shortcomings in Zanzibar, which had been widely reported,
were the management of the Electoral Register. According to Prof Samwel Mushi of the University of Dar es Salaam, some people had voting cards but could not find their names on the displayed lists of the register. There was a need for ZEC to review the law and ensure that the list was displayed at least a week before the election in order to solve some of the problems. Intimidation of the voters was another problem. The exceptionally high presence of security forces during registration and on the polling day may have made some people decide to remain indoors. The Inspector of Police had declared an operation code-named ‘Operation Dondola’ which was heavily manned by regular police, FFU and paramilitary groups based in Zanzibar. “In some places people going to registration centres met police barriers and were interrogated. Some people may have decided to turn back” he said.

“I call upon the Speaker to form a commission of inquiry to investigate the many acts of human rights violation which occurred in Pemba and Unguja so that those behind the offences are punished in accordance with the law,” Abubakar Khamis Bakar, the Leader of the Official Opposition in the House, said.

The Minister for the Constitution and Good Governance said the presence of forces helped to keep peace during the elections and that it was the duty of both President Karume and retired Union president Benjamin Mkapa to make sure the country did not erupt into chaos - Guardian.

CUF saluted President Kikwete’s opening speech to the National Assembly in Dodoma on December 30, during which he spoke on the Zanzibar question. The President said that he was extremely concerned by the situation in the Isles, whereby the constituent parts, Zanzibar and Pemba, were deeply divided. “I will make sure we engage in a dialogue so that we do away with political divisions and rivalry in Zanzibar.” He said that he would seek a new truce between the warring supporters of the ruling CCM and CUF.... “In this, I will go beyond the Muafaka” in referring to the deal that the two parties signed in 2001 after the violence following elections in 2000 that claimed some 30 lives.

Although clashes at the 2005 elections had not produced similar fatalities, at least four people, two civilians and two soldiers, were killed and nearly 200 people were wounded in violence surrounding the elections.
Some 20 people were injured in poll-related unrest after the elections that sent hundreds of villagers fleeing their homes in Tumbatu Island (29 kms north of Unguja) - Sunday Observer.

On December 30 CUF published its report on the Zanzibar elections. Extracts: ‘The presidential elections were ‘a betrayal of popular hopes’. Zanzibaris were made to believe democracy could not work in Zanzibar’. The report, which is in 11 parts, includes sections on the permanent voters’ register, vote rigging and violation of human rights by army officers.

Responding to concerns raised by CUF members, during a heated debate in the Zanzibar House of Representatives, State Minister, Dr Mwinyihaji Mwadini, said there was no need to form a commission to investigate alleged brutality and voter intimidation during the elections. The aggrieved parties should, instead, go to court for redress. He warned that the opposition had gone too far in alleging that Pemba people were being sidelined, as CCM policy did not allow for any form of favouritism or discrimination - Guardian.

Mwananchi reported on March 13 that Prime Minister Lowassa had directed the Human Rights Commission (HRC) to conduct an investigation into the complaints by people of Pemba and Unguja that police and other state organs violated human rights during the elections. The opposition leader in the Zanzibar House of Representatives had previously written to Lowassa asking him to appoint a parliamentary probe commission. Lowassa replied that the work could instead be done by the HRC which would have ‘constitutional authority’ on both sides of the Union.

The Zanzibar government has said it has no intention of lifting the ban on the Dirà newspaper that was imposed last year. The isles Minister for Information, Ali Juma Shamhuna, told the House of Representatives that the decision to ban the private weekly tabloid was correct because it was publishing ‘articles aimed at disrupting national unity and solidarity’ among the people of Zanzibar. The Minister said Dirà was ‘portraying negatively’ the 1964 Zanzibar Revolution with pictures of people who suffered under it, thus provoking and instigating hatred. “What is surprising is that they wrote nothing about the suppression of black Africans under the Sultan’s regime” he said – Nipashe.
CUF secretary-general Seif Shariff Hamad called on islanders to prepare for fresh elections when addressing a public rally at Kikwajuni on March 11. He said last year’s elections were rigged and that President Karume’s government had lost credibility among the international community.

The party maintains that Karume’s presidency is illegitimate.

Deputy Chief Minister Ali Juma Shamuhuna said, during a public rally at Mkwajuni grounds in Unguja North region, that rumours circulating on the isles about possible fresh elections were baseless. He said President Amani Karume was recognised by the international community.

*Mwananchi* reported that the Chairman of the Zanzibar Association of Investors in the Tourism Sector had called upon the police to protect foreign tourists from being hassled. He said people had been complaining that young conmen were tarnishing the image of tourism in the isles. Although there were now fewer incidents of tourists being mugged or assaulted, they were now being conned through the use of drugs and cannabis. The trick was to try to sell drugs to tourists and, once they fell into the trap, a policeman appeared and then extorted between $500 and $1,000 which was shared between the police and the conmen. Some of the areas notorious for such extortion were Mahonda Lungalunga on the way to Nungwi and the road leading to the eastern coast as well as Kibanda Ugali Kiwengwa.

**HIV – AIDS**

About 177,000 Tanzanians contracted HIV last year, according to the Tanzania Commission for Aids (TACAIDS). Seven per cent of all persons aged 15 to 49 on the Mainland were infected. This made Tanzania among the 12 worst affected countries in the world.

The country has been hailed however as a success story in its harmonisation of HIV/AIDS and poverty reduction strategies. The accolades were given by the World Bank Institute (WBI) during a video conference in Washington DC which was viewed at the Institute of Finance Management (IFM)’s Global Development Learning Center in Dar es Salaam. Dr. Joseph Annan of the UNDP commended the role played by TACAIDS in the management of donor funds in poverty eradication.
ORGANIC COTTON

Tanzania’s cotton industry contributes about 21% of foreign exchange earnings and employs vast numbers of people. Now, a project initiated by the Tanzanian High Commission in London, has been started in Handeni for the cultivation of organic cotton. Organic cotton cultivation brings many advantages - there is increased productivity on farms and higher income for farmers from the sale of the certified cotton; as fertilisers and insecticides are not used there is no pollution of soil and water. The project has been given 100 acres and some 400 farmers registered in March 2005 in the ‘Handeni Organic Farmers’ Association’. Each member signed a contract governing the correct production of the cotton. The project is also sponsoring training and provision of other forms of assistance to the local people.

In 2003 organic textiles sales in Britain increased by 48% compared with the year before. Most of it is used in baby wear and women’s wear.

Thank you Assah Mwambene for this photo - Ed

BIRD FLU

Tanzania, with the support of USAID and the German Technical Development Agency (GTZ), has stepped up surveillance of migratory birds following the first confirmed case of avian influenza, subtype H5N1, in Nigerian poultry. Three to five million birds have already been sighted in Tanzania during their annual migration southwards from Asia and central Europe, where they may have been in contact with birds carrying the virus. Because migration is an ongoing, cyclical
process, the birds flying back up north in the spring may infect birds in Europe and birds coming back in the fall may infect birds in Africa. Villagers who raise free-range poultry are easily exposed to droppings from migrating wild aquatic and shore birds. Tanzania has established a comprehensive surveillance programme that will allow health and veterinary officials to launch effective and appropriate disease prevention and control measures quickly in case of an outbreak. Wild bird surveillance is currently being conducted by the Tanzania Bird Atlas Project, with oversight from the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute.” – Guardian.

NEW BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER

Mr Philip Parham (46) has been appointed as the new British High Commissioner to Tanzania in succession to Dr Andrew Pocock who has transferred to Harare.

His career has included work with Morgan Grenfell and Barclays de Zoete Wedd and spells in Washington and Saudi Arabia. In 2003 he was appointed Head of the Iraq Operations Department and in 2004 Head of the Counter-Terrorism Policy Department in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London.

AID

Among recent donations of aid to Tanzania have been 18 million euros (TShs 25.3bn) in budget support and for help in the fight against HIV/AIDS from Germany; from Italy 2 million euros (TShs 2.8 billion) for HIV/AIDS control; from the US $700,000 (TShs 850 million) for help in monitoring bird flu; TShs 11 million from Norway for rural electrification; Korea $20 million (over TShs 20bn) to finance training of trainers, the construction of vocational training centres (VTCs) and information technology centres (ITCs) in Dar es Salaam; and, from Britain £700,000 (TShs 1.4 billion) for famine relief. Britain has also announced that it will provide £310 million over the next three years to support the Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (Mkukuta). DfID is the largest bilateral contributor of budget support to Tanzania having provided £330m over the last six years, including £85 million this financial year.
THE WALKING DREAM

by Jane Bryce

When my parents arrived in Tanganyika in 1949, they were sent to the Rondo Plateau, a remote area in the south, where my father’s job was to map a forest. This he was to do by foot safari, camping in the bush for up to weeks at a time, with a team of porters to carry the tents and provisions. Before she became pregnant with me, my mother went on foot safari with him. I have the pictures they took – a record of the dying days of colonialism, the white administrator with his canvas bath, dinner served at a folding table by lamplight, my mother washing her hair in a stream...but my memories are all of Moshi, where we lived from when I was three to seventeen. My parents spent nineteen years in Tanzanian Government and left in 1968.

The writer’s father’s office at the Hardwoods Research Station, Moshi

Until very recently, I had never been back. For maybe 15 years after we left, whenever I was asked where I came from, I always said ‘Tanzania’. Then one day I woke up and realized that I had a British passport, I had left at the age of 17, and I couldn’t claim it in that way any longer. But where was I to say I was from? My whole life, whenever I’ve been asked to look at anything, I’ve looked at it from the point of view of someone
born in Africa, with a sense of how the world looks from that particular perspective. I feel most at home on African soil. This visit was the first time I’d had the courage to go – what shall I say? ‘back’? ‘home’? As soon as I say that, I know you can never go back, and I know it isn’t home in any real and practical sense. But when I told people I met that I was born in Lindi and they exclaimed, ‘But then you’re Mtanzania!’ – Tanzanian - I needed, after all these years of absence, to believe it. When I got to Moshi, I stayed at Keys Hotel, an old established hotel used by mountain climbing parties. It was dark when I arrived and I fell into bed exhausted. Next day, I came to to the sound of people in the car park below getting into vehicles to set off for the mountain, and a great wave of realisation broke over me. I was in Moshi again, a place I had visited only in my dreams for the last 36 years. When my parents left, I was back in my English boarding school, so I left without even saying good-bye. Throughout the next 36 years, a recurring dream carried my spirit back to Moshi. In it, I followed the hard-packed red earth bush paths I used to walk as a child, the great snow-capped peak of the mountain floating above the crumpled white cloud-sheets which had shrouded it all day, and now lay discarded at its feet. I call it the Walking Dream.
This morning, the mountain is obscured as I set out towards the town centre. I have no concrete plan. I am simply going to walk until I see something I recognise, and keep walking, and at some point I know my feet will carry me to the house. This is a Walking Dream, except that I am really here, and the solidity of the red soil beneath my feet reinforces its own reality. There’s the roundabout and the road to town, there’s the mosque with its multiple green-tipped minarets, there’s the Hindu temple, smelling of incense, and I’m walking down a street of shops, and in front of one of them, I come to a halt. The building is semi-derelict, its windows blank, its structure crumbling, but on the front, quite clearly, is the name: ‘Mulji’s Emporium.’ Mulji, the Indian shopkeeper from whom my parents bought single jars of the expensive delicacies he imported to please European tastes. Cooper’s Oxford Marmalade. Branston Pickle – in our house, there was a saying, ‘Branston Pickle is not for children’, which meant we coveted it more than anything. Lea and Perrins. Angostura Bitters. Heinz Tomato Ketchup.

Glancing through the door of the nearest shop, I see a couple of Indian men chatting behind the counter and I duck inside and ask them about Mulji. What happened to him? Oh, the old man died (later I remembered there was a story that he was murdered), and after the nationalisation of property in 1971, the children left and went to Europe and America. What about you? I ask. Oh, we stayed, and now business is good. I look around at the shelves laden with electronic goods, all imported. For ten years, during the height of the socialist experiment in Tanzania, you could be arrested for having a bar of soap imported from outside. Now, however, people are reclaiming their properties and businesses, even, in the case of one Greek farmer, their farms. But it’s too late for some families, all the children have gone elsewhere, married and settled, and are lost to Tanzania.

I continue walking, through a quarter of African shops, with mattresses piled high on the pavement, and hand painted signs, and the infectious sound of Congolese music blaring from radios. It reminds me of West Africa, and I realise I probably never saw it in my earlier life, circumscribed by a European lifestyle with its rigid proprieties. I walk on, up a wide tarred road, and in front of me I see another well-remembered monument of the past: the Greek Orthodox Church. As a teenager, given to seeing the world in terms of poetry, I used to see its round white dome as a replica of the snowy peak of the mountain which hung
above it. I walk around it in delight, and through the open door someone sees me from inside and comes out to say hello. It is the pastor, but not a Greek, a Tanzanian, and he tells me the church was sold by the Greek community to the Southern Baptists when all the Greeks left, but that they are now negotiating to get it back. ‘We are sympathetic’, he says, ‘we know what it means to them.’ Like all the Tanzanians I have met on this trip, he has a gentleness and dignity which instantly makes me want to be like them.

I can’t stop, in the dream I have to keep walking, and I go on. There’s a sign pointing to the Commonwealth war cemetery, and again, though this is not part of my memories, I’m curious and I follow it. I come to a low wall containing five straight rows of white headstones, engraved with the names of 95 men who died fighting for the British in the First World War. They are both Christian and Moslem, from the King’s African Rifles, the Army Service Corps, the East African Military Labour Service. The graveyard is beautifully kept, the headstones spotless, the grass clipped. The sun is getting hotter now, and an atmosphere of peace pervades the place, with only another solitary gardener watering nearby. Sitting there, on a bench facing the headstones, I realise how many preconceptions I’ve brought with me on this journey. I know Tanzania is a poor country, or was until recently, and therefore I expected a degree of ramshakleness, of corner-cutting and prioritisation of what should be looked after. The careful tending of these graves, years after anyone probably remembers their occupants, moves me and makes me reconsider my prejudices.

I walk on, in search of more immediate human contact, and stop for roasted corn and a peeled orange at the side of the road. The stallholder has several chickens in a cage, and I watch a customer bargain for one of them, holding it in his hand to test its weight. My mother did the same at the market in the old days, and we’d take the chicken home and feed it up for a week, before slaughtering it for Sunday dinner. I remember watching the gardener chase and catch the poor bird, and cut through its neck with a panga. I once took a stick and stirred the pool of blood it left on the ground, and was surprised how sticky it was. I couldn’t eat the chicken, and still can’t to this day. When I notice the stallholder is holding the chicken down in the act of sawing through its neck, I get up and say goodbye.

(To be continued)
BIZINESS & THE ECONOMY

Exchange rates: 1 £ = TShs 2,124   1 US$ = TShs 1,216

The onset of the fourth government in the history of Tanzania came without the usual stories of inheriting empty coffers which is a very good sign of things to come. The market welcomed the new government enthusiastically with the CRDB Bank announcing a record profit of TShs 4bn. However, the value of the Shilling has been falling while headline inflation continued on an upward trend to 5.4% in February 06 from 4.5% in September ‘05.

The TRA, the Tanzania counterpart to the IRS in UK, exceeded its revenue collection target for January 06 by TShs 5.6bn citing improved revenue collection techniques among other measures. However due to the poor performance of traditional exports such as tea, cashew nuts and cotton the current account deficit in January 06 widened to USD 89m. While the Media and Tanzanians in general seem to have accorded Mr Kikwete high marks for his first 100 days in office, the Dar Stock Exchange has continued its lacklustre performance with market capitalisation increasing by 2% by the end of March 06 from TShs 2714.79bn in January - a decline of 2.8% in US dollar value. This indicates a negative perception of the growth potential of the economy, hence the negative growth in value of the traded shares in dollar terms. This does not however take into account the cost of exchanging shares as well as the inflation effect which will further reduce the value of underlying assets.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Company</th>
<th>January 2006</th>
<th>March 2006</th>
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<td></td>
<td>TShs</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SWISSPORT</td>
<td>600</td>
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Share movements on the Dar Stock Exchange

Market activity would be enhanced if more successful companies could be encouraged to list. For example, there is a good case for the CRDB bank to list. The bank’s shares are currently being traded across its branch network only. This decreases its liquidity, thus denying the shareholders a chance to realise its capital appreciation (its share price
for the year to March 06 averaged TShs100).

Mr Mkapa’s government came in with the El Nino weather phenomenon; drought has welcomed Mr Kikwete to office. The Bank of Tanzania (BOT) is warning of increased inflationary pressure due to prolonged drought which necessitates increased imports of foodstuffs and petroleum products thus worsening the trade deficit.

Exports of non-traditional goods (apparel, iron, steel, footwear, plastic products) increased by about 13%. Manufactured goods increased to US$4.3m from US$0.4m in January as a result of footwear exports. Most of the manufactured exports were to Burundi, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and Malawi thus demonstrating that peace in these countries is in Tanzania’s strategic and economic interest.

Sisal products, which could earn the country over US$500m annually through commercialisation and product diversification - to include biogas and electricity generation - is expected to increase with the construction of a commercial sisal plant in Tanga.

With June approaching, Mama Meghji will present the first budget for this government which should set the tone of ‘New Vigour’ in economic policy. Tanzania’s spending on the key areas of Agriculture, Education, Health and Infrastructure remains very low as a percentage of GDP per capita. One would not be wrong to continue to expect that the increasing rate in revenue collection should be reflected in government spending on these key areas.

An Ancient Chinese proverb says that;
“ If you want one year of prosperity, grow grain.
If you want ten years of prosperity, grow trees.
If you want a hundred years of prosperity grow people.”

This explains the massive size of the quality labour force being generated in China and India today. No wonder the West is taking notice. So should we.

Joseph Kilasara

Other economic developments reported in the press include the following:
De Beers, the world’s leading diamond mining company is to invest $150 million in a new processing plant at Mwadui Williamson Diamonds to enable the firm to process 16 million tonnes of material annually and increase diamond production to a million carats as well as extending the life of the mine by a further twenty five years - East African

The Controller and Auditor-General’s report, released to parliament in February, indicted Tanzania’s missions abroad for financial mismanagement amounting to TShs 567,951,935. The money was supposed to have been remitted to the retention revenue account at the Bank of Tanzania. The High Commissions mentioned included those in Zambia, Nigeria, Uganda and Malawi. The report said that the High Commission in London had purchased and paid TShs 12,493,922,420 to acquire Chancery House but there was no evidence of possession of a title deed for the property. An audit of the payment vouchers for the financial year 2003/04 showed the existence of un-vouched and improperly vouched expenditures of TShs 7,369,193,685 according to the report quoted in the Guardian.

A $200 million undersea cable system will help more than 15 countries along Africa’s eastern coast to access efficient, cheaper telecommunications and internet services by the end of 2007. It will comprise more than 8,000 km of optical fibre cable, which transmits information in the form of pulses of light, and will link up with the various national landline networks at ‘landing points’ such as Durban, Port Sudan, Maputo, Mombasa, Dar-Es-Salaam and Zanzibar. In terms of speed, cost, efficiency, volume, and capacity, optical fibre is unmatched by any other technology, including satellite communication. At least 27 companies have made commitments to invest - IRIN, South Africa.

Serengeti Beer Ltd. (SBL) has started selling its products in Australia and Britain and reported that demand was steadily increasing in the Netherlands and other European countries – Mtanzania.

The South African rail parastatal Transnet, has leased eight locomotives to Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) to boost capacity on the routes to the land-locked Congo, Zambia, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. The locomotives operate on a 1,067mm (wide gauge) and 1,000 mm (narrow gauge) rail network. TRC operates on 1,000 mm gauge while Tazara operates on 1,067mm gauge. They will be based in Tabora and run on the Tabora-Mwanza and Tabora-Kigoma lines. Most of the locomotives
were transported under their own power by rail on normal 1,067mm gauge bogies to Dar es Salaam where they were fitted on 1,000mm gauge bogies – East African.

The report ‘Foreign Private Investment in Tanzania in 2004’ issued by the Bank of Tanzania and others contains the views of existing foreign investors on their future plans. Of 1,242 companies surveyed 72% indicated a willingness to expand their investments in the country, 22% said they would maintain their present levels and only 5% indicated their intention to withdraw. The most important factor affecting their views was the domestic and regional political stability.

AIR TANZANIA CO. LTD. COLLAPSES

The merger between the South African Airways and Air Tanzania Corporation that resulted in the formation of ‘Air Tanzania Company Ltd’ has collapsed. Minister for Infrastructure Development, Basil Mramba, told the National Assembly that the two parties were negotiating on how to end the deal without hurting one another. In 2002 South African Airways (SAA) paid $20 million for a 49% stake in ATC. It was expected that half of the $20 million, would go into the 49% shareholding, and the rest would be directed toward the capital and training account earmarked for capitalisation. Before privatisation, ATC owned one passenger aircraft, a Boeing 737-200. Some have accused SAA of failing to meet part of the management agreement. Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority Director-General Margaret Munyagi was quoted in the East African as saying that Air Tanzania was in a “worse state than before it was taken over by SAA”. SAA in turn accused Tanzania’s government of not “being serious” in failing to release about $30m needed to implement Air Tanzania’s business strategy to reverse continued losses.

In April the government announced it had decided to dispose of ATCL, following years of losses. It had become insolvent after accumulating losses amounting to TShs 24.7bn/- in the four years since it had merged with South Africa Airways. However, the minister made it clear that there was a need to start a national airline that would meet the expectations of its clients and the country. A number of potential investors including Precision Air, Ethiopian Airlines and Gulf Air had expressed interest - Guardian.
COMMONWEALTH GAMES TRIUMPH
Tanzanian Samson Ramadhani (a police officer) won the gold medal in the marathon at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne on 19th March. He was in fierce competition with Kenyan Fred Mogaka throughout much of the race and finished the 34 seconds ahead. “I knew that the Kenyans were very strong - they were the favourites to win - but I didn’t use my strength. I used my brain” Ramadhani said. According to the Arusha Times he returned home with not only the gold medal but also with some newly acquired football skills from ‘Down under.’ Ramadhani had spent his final hours at the athletes village enjoying a game of ‘kick-to-kick’ with his compatriots and emergency services personnel. ‘Australian Convicts’, an organization which promotes Australian Rules Football overseas, donated two balls to the runner, in order for him to bring the game home to his fellow Tanzanians.

THREATENED TOADS MULTIPLY
The Kihansi spray toads (featured in an earlier issue of TA) which are regarded as a threatened species, and which were taken to the US in 2002 have multiplied from the original 72 to 216 in zoos in New York and Ohio and San Diego. Plans are now being made for them to return to Kihansi and for the possible establishment of a domestic breeding facility there. The government initiated project was assisted by World Bank funding.’ The toads might prove useful in future with the growth of biotechnology, especially in the pharmaceutical industries –Guardian.
To all my potential guests

“My goal is very simple: to help you discover the soul of Tanzania”

TATAH MLOLA: Founder and Director
People to People Safaris, Tanzania

Our unique skills will bring you closer to the life, history and traditions of Tanzania by enabling you to meet and talk with many Tanzanians, both traditional and modern, as well as enjoying our spectacular wildlife, countryside, mountains and beaches.

We are committed to Fair Trade tourism...that means that the communities and people we visit together, and our staff, receive just and fair rewards for their contribution and commitment, thus directly enabling them to improve their quality of life. This means that you can make a real difference. In addition, by dealing directly with us, all the money you pay stays in Tanzania.

We work closely with you to find out your interests and objectives and will help create a journey and experiences especially for you. And we won’t be shy to suggest some novel adventures that will stimulate the spirit of real travel... discovery, curiosity, spontaneity and serendipity. Take a look at our web site for some clues! (www.p2psafaris.com)

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Sincerely Tatah Mlola, Arusha

“Tatah has a unique mix of skills: author, teacher, farmer, anthropologist, story teller... there is no better companion with whom to discover the delights of Tanzania”

(Colin Hastings, kijiji*Vision Fairly Traded Photography)

People to People Safaris
TANZANIA

email: tatah@p2psafaris.com  website: www.p2psafaris.com
In reviewing the probable future of the East African Community in the Kenyan *THE NATION* (March 26) Gitau Warigi concentrated on Tanzania’s new leader. Extracts: ‘Kikwete has started off doing some sensible things, like cracking down on crime and police corruption. He has also ruffled his country’s male establishment by appointing a host of women to powerful government positions. For me, Kikwete’s main problem is that he is a populist. The worry is whether he will allow this populism to play havoc with sensible governance. Most of the extravagant manna he promised during his presidential campaign is clearly not something poor Tanzania can afford right now. This populism could turn problematic in other ways. There is a powerful political and business lobby in Tanzania, which takes it as its calling to raise red flags about Kenya and its presumed designs to suffocate its neighbours economically. Right now a reported bid by Kenya Airways to buy a stake in Air Tanzania is causing a lot of commotion in Dar es Salaam.... The point, though, is that all too often some unreconstructed bureaucrats in Dar es Salaam have a perception of economic self-reliance that is totally outdated and at variance with the realities of today. I don’t believe Kikwete is that kind of knee-jerk isolationist. He looks more suave than that. In certain respects, the East African leaders come from totally different backgrounds. Kibaki still betrays the heart of a technocrat, which is how he started in government, anyway. He is comfortable with numbers and the language of business and commerce. Museveni, on the other hand, prides himself as a “revolutionary,” at least starting with the bit of having gone to the bush and fought to oust a dictatorship.... He is clearly infatuated with the idea of a “transformation” of the East African region. Kikwete is a very different character. He is a born party cadre who grew up and flourished within the ranks of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi...... Kikwete is a very modern, very urbane specimen...... Is Kikwete serious about East African integration?....
Obviously, he has given the right cues to his Kenyan hosts, and prior to that, the Ugandans, as well. Museveni can’t wait and is all raring to go…. With Kikwete, all we can do is to wait and see. Quite understandably, his initial attention has been in consolidating himself in power. Once that is done, East Africa is waiting to see what plans its newest Head of State will bring.

Aware that there was going to be a gap in his recent business visit to Tanzania, Tim Yeo, writing in the **FINANCIAL TIMES** (March 11), described his experience (with some help from an official of the British High Commission), as a golfer at the Gymkhana Club in Dar es Salaam. Extracts: ‘The lack of water means you putt on browns, or a mixture of mud and dirt, rather than on greens. The surface of the brown gets scuffed up when anyone walks over it so before every putt a caddie sweeps it smooth with a sort of handsaw…. I am not sure how this fits in with the Rules of Golf but at least it means your putt may go where you hit it. The borrows are not severe but the variable speed is a big challenge. With no time to practice, my tee shot on the first - a par three lined with palms, eucalyptus trees and bougainvillea - was predictably wild and a peacock wailed sympathetically as the ball hit a tree…. although the terrain is flat and the course is in the middle of the growing city, the setting is lovely and the 7th and 15th tees are separated from the Indian Ocean only by a small beach side road. The bunkers are excellent, better than some I know at home. Thank you Jill Bowden for this - Editor.

An article by Anthony Field in **WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF) ACTION** in February under the heading ‘Go with the Flow’ was particularly timely as Dar es Salaam was suffering from some of its the worst ever cuts in electricity supply. Extracts: ‘Fifty per cent of Tanzania’s electricity comes from two dams fed by the Great Ruaha River. By 2010 WWF aims to restore year-round flow into the river even in the driest years. During the 1990’s and early 2000’s misuse of water upstream caused the river to stop flowing at the peak of the dry season…. The problem lies 150kms upstream, where poor farming practices result in sediment being eroded from fields into the river. WWF is working with the local communities creating and training Water Users Associations to manage the river better…. These associations are spreading across the whole catchment. They bring communities together to offer training on fair distribution and efficient use of water and, crucially, they also help
people to understand one another’s needs, which is vital in reducing localised conflicts’ - Thank you Christine Lawrence for sending this item - Editor.

An article by Richard Human under the heading ‘Tanzanite Trouble’ in the April issue of NEW INTERNATIONALIST told the story of a 26-year-old Maasai called James who spent a year in the Tanzanite mines of Mererani. Extracts: Unpaid and unfed, the only way to earn money from the drudgery was to smuggle gems out of the mine and past the mine owner before selling the raw stones to one of the many dealers in the town. James never managed it. “If you get a stone out you can make TShs 8 million (about $10,000)” he said. “When a mine is dynamited, the miners have to stand, one arm hooked around a ladder step, receiving a bag of rock from the miner below before passing it to the miner above. They will stay in this position for the whole day without a break” The only things that keep them going are brandy and marijuana. “Both stop the feeling of hunger but make people angry.” Stories abound of mine owners blasting into each other’s tunnels resulting in fatal brawls..... but as long as farming remains a precarious existence with changing weather patterns.... the mines will continue to attract those who want a better life for themselves and their families.

The FINANCIAL TIMES reported that TazaniteOne, which mines and sells the gems, is to spend $5 million on a marketing offensive. At a glamorous event in London, staff were all bedecked in jewellery laden with Tanzanite. The company is also involved in community projects amongst the Maasai in the region where the Tanzanite is mined – Thank you Jill Bowden for this – Editor.

The ANTIQUES TRADE GAZETTE (14th January) reported on a recent auction sale in London of two huge and remarkably symmetrical elephant tusks, weighing 192lbs and 189lbs, which had been found by the owner of a factory in the Scottish Borders which used to manufacture pianos. Why they had not been turned into piano keys was said to be less of a puzzle then why the previous owners of the factory forgot about their treasures in the cellar. The tasks are believed to have come from animals shot in Tanzania in 1970. The American winner of the auction, the owner of two Tanzanian safari parks, paid £380,000 for the tusks - Thank you John Sankey for this item - Editor.
Uganda’s **NEW VISION** reported on February 24 that Tanzania’s Bongo Flava had very rapidly penetrated the Ugandan music scene. Tanzanian artistes like Mr. Blue, Rah P and many others were becoming household names. Then, when many Ugandan artistes jumped onto the dancehall music bandwagon, Rocky Giant did the unexpected - he went for the rare music genre of Tanzanian origin. Bongo Flava is reminiscent of the urban hip-hop music style, but sung in Swahili. The end result? Rocky Giant has made himself a household name and is riding on the runaway of success through his two main hits - *Rafiki* and *Nikifika*. Rocky Giant is emerging as one of the most versatile artistes in the year 2006 as he blends Swahili and Luganda. With slapstick lyrics in most of his songs, Rocky Giant drives the crowd wild whenever he performs....’

The **SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST** (December 17) reported that an international consortium of research institutes has published the first draft sequence of the genome of the chimpanzee which has confirmed that chimps are our closest relatives in the animal kingdom. Humans share 60% of their genes with chickens and 88% with rodents but with chimpanzees we have more than 98% of genes in common. The article went on to say that, thanks to the work of Jane Goodall, the world’s most famous living primatologist, we have learned that chimps are capable of empathy and kindness, but also cruelty and meanness. ‘Their range of behaviour includes murder, cannibalism and organised warfare. In other words they just are like us.’ Dr Goodall (71), visiting Asia, said however that the chimpanzee genome was not a big deal as we already knew the DNA structures differed by only 1.6%. Dr Goodall still visits her chimps twice a year in the Gombe Reserve in Tanzania, the site where she made most of her discoveries in the past four decades - *Thank you Ronald Blanche for sending this from Hong Kong - Editor.*

The **EAST AFRICAN** (10th January) commented on some of President Kikwete’s new ministers. Extracts: Finance Minister Mrs Zakia Meghji becomes the first woman in East Africa to hold this powerful portfolio. Political observers say that she has what it takes to drive economic reform given the respect she commands within the ruling party. Her performance at the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources is testimony to her ability to turn things around. Having imposed a ban on log exports in the teeth of industry opposition she was nicknamed the ‘Iron Lady’ following her firm stance in canceling the timber export licences
of several firms.... Former Finance Minister Basil Mramba has not been demoted in his new appointment as Minister of Infrastructure combines the work of the former Ministers of Transport and Communications and of Works. He will have one of the largest capital expenditure budgets in the country. The new Minister of Trade and Industry, Nazir Karamagi is a political novice but also a successful businessman with a stake in Tanzania International Container Services. and is deeply committed to economic development. Thank you Christine Lawrence and Keith Lye for this - Editor.

In an article in THE TABLET (September 3) under the heading the Pill and the Planet, the BBC’s Mary Colwell compares two sets of people - Catholic and conservationist - ‘each with more or less the same aim of making this earth a place of justice and harmony. Yet they barely talk to each other.’ She went on: ‘Population growth is the single biggest threat to the health of this planet....birth control is a nettle that has to be grasped and discussed realistically by Catholics.’ She illustrated her point by referring to a paper by Professor Craig Packer in NATURE. Extracts: ‘The number of people being attacked by lions in Tanzania has gone from an average of about 30 cases per year in the early nineties to well over a hundred cases in the last three of four years... This is primarily due to the fact that there are so many more people in Tanzania than there were before. The population growth is about three and a half per cent per year which means it doubles every 20 to 25 years. We now have people living in areas that would have been lion habitat in the past. Lions won’t normally attack people if they have enough zebra or wildebeest but in the areas where those animals have been a source of bush meat for growing numbers of people, the lions become ravenous and actually break into people’s houses at night, specifically looking for people to eat. The horror is simply unimaginable.’ - Thank you John Sankey for this - Editor.

HABARI, the Newsletter of the Sweden-Tanzania Society (No 3 of 2005) has a number of articles in English particularly on the arts. One describes the art market in Tanzania; another explains historically how Tanzanian cartoonists have begun to take the lead in Africa; a third is compiled from the ‘Minor Field Study - Graphic Art in Dar es Salaam’ held in 2003; another article, under the heading ‘Sex, Cellphones and HIV’ reviews a new film – Kizunguzungu, which is said to expose the
hypocrisy and opportunism of those who are supposed to be in the vanguard in the battle against Aids. Yet another article describes the ‘Tanzania Culture Trust Fund’ which was established in 1998 between the governments of Tanzania and Sweden and operates autonomously.

Tanzania is beginning its first field trials of genetically modified crops. So reported the NEWSLETTER OF THE SCIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (10th January). The research is being conducted on cotton in the Mbeya, Rukwa and Iringa regions and is aimed at combating attack by insect pests, including the red bollworm that feeds on cotton and causes bollworm disease. A representative of the ‘Tanzania Farmers Association’ said it was good that the government had decided to start its GM trials with cotton instead of a food crop as this would avoid the contentious issue of having GM products in the human food chain. The Newsletter reported also that President Kikwete had pledged to invest heavily in agricultural research. “The $600,000 allocated to the Tanzanian Commission for Research “ he said.

- Thank you Peter Park for this - Editor.

HAKI ELIMU

Some months ago an NGO, HakiElimu, published an article on the state of education in Tanzania which the then Minister of Education considered to be biased and over critical. The government suspended its operations. HakiElimu’s Chairperson protested that its reports were meant to identify education challenges and bottlenecks to allow relevant authorities to address them. She emphasised that HakiElimu was an independent organisation with a clear mandate under the terms of its registration. Just before TA went to the printer the Guardian reported that the government had stated that it was willing to extend an ‘amnesty’ and to lift the ban imposed on HakiElimu if it apologized for what was described as ‘ridiculing government efforts in development of the education sector in the country.’ But in her rejoinder, Hellen Kijo-Bisimba, Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) Executive Director and former board member of HakiElimu said the claims against the NGO lacked substance.

It is understood that negotiations are under way to try and resolve the deadlock.
The Yale University ‘Kamusi Project’ (www.yale.edu/swahili/) has hosted an online Kiswahili–English dictionary since 1995. It is a well used resource and a live dictionary which anyone can add new words to.

However, until now, learners of Kiswahili have had a fundamental difficulty when using any dictionary. In English and other European languages, the end of words may be changed according to the tense etc, but a learner looking to translate say “needed” should be able to find “need” in a dictionary without too many problems. In Kiswahili, however, numerous prefixes and infixes are added to the beginning of words, so to translate say nitaenda the student had to know that this is from verb -enda before they could look anything up in the dictionary. To translate atakapopigwa they needed to know firstly that this is from verb -pigwa and secondly that it is a passive form of the verb -piga.

Over the last couple of years I have been working in my spare time on a computer programme for an “intelligent” dictionary able to detect the verb from a word entered by the user, and I am gad to say that, with help from the Kamusi editor Martin Benjamin and programmer Andrew Smith, this has now been incorporated into the online dictionary. So
now, typing \textit{nitaenda} into the dictionary brings up a result explaining that this is from verb -\textit{enda} and giving the meaning.

We believe this is the first time such an “intelligent” dictionary has been created for a Bantu language.

For working out the computer code I am indebted to Peter Wilson’s “Simplified Swahili” book with its excellently clear descriptions. A standard Kiswahili conjugated verb is made up of “Subject prefix – Tense infix – Relative infix – Object infix – Verb stem – Ending”, and the challenge is to extract the verb stem from this. Luckily, Kiswahili is very regular and follows well defined rules which means that this is not quite as bad a problem as might first appear.

The program works by stepping through all possible tenses (43 at the last count!) and tries to match the test word with all legal combinations of subject, object and relative infixes. This typically produces several possible solutions, which are then checked in the dictionary and only those verbs which are found in the dictionary are displayed. For example \textit{anakupenda} gives 5 initial solutions, the first being a verb -\textit{nakupenda} in the present continuous tense (which isn’t found in the dictionary and is therefore rejected), the second verb -\textit{kupenda} in the present tense with no object (which again is rejected) and the remaining three are the “correct” solution with the verb -\textit{penda} and object \textit{ku} – three solutions since \textit{ku} could represent “you” or “it” (object in noun class 15), or “it” (a place – locative class). An earlier version of the program jumped straight to the -\textit{penda} solution, but this didn’t work for say \textit{anakusanya} where the \textit{ku} is not in fact an object infix and the second solution (verb -\textit{kusanya}) is actually the “correct” solution.

The subjunctive and other less regular tenses were rather harder to parse and tend to produce more possible solutions. For example the present tense negative \textit{siendi} could be conjugated from a verb -\textit{endi} or -\textit{enda}. However, by checking the solutions in the dictionary, the majority of these “wrong” solutions are eliminated and we were all pleasantly surprised at how few times a “wrong” solution is generated.

Unfortunately the project has run out of funds so the implementation of the algorithms to detect verbs in the passive state etc are on hold. Please feel free to test the dictionary and if you are able please make a donation to continue the work.
Zanzibar ID Cards

As from April 1 all Zanzibaris were required to have identity cards. The purpose is to identify residents of Zanzibar and provide Zanzibaris with documents allowing them easy movement within the East African region. The identification card project, which started in June 2005, was undertaken by an Israel-US firm, Super Com, at a cost of about $2 million. Civil servants need to show them before getting their salaries. To qualify for a card, persons must be Tanzanians of Zanzibar origin or have been resident in Zanzibar for at least 10 years. The measure was implemented amid escalating incidents of armed robbery on the islands - suspected to have been committed by non-Zanzibaris - as well as civil service fraud in which the government has lost more than $1 million annually to ghost workers - IRIN.

Miscellany

President Jakaya Kikwete has appointed Dr Abdulkadir Shareef, former High Commissioner in London, as Coordinator of the ‘Brand Tanzania Initiative’. Dr Shareef, who was the President’s deputy when he was Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation in the previous government, will spearhead efforts to promote Tanzania abroad as a preferred tourism and investment destination. Under the Initiative, which will be implemented through the President’s Office, views on what should be done to sell Tanzania will be collected and forwarded to policy makers.

The German Ambassador to Tanzania has pledged TShs 8.5m to facilitate the renovation of the Maji Maji Memorial Museum in Ruvuma Region. At a war commemoration in Songea he said that the brutal and unacceptable repression of the Maji Maji revolt 100 years ago would always remain one of the darkest chapters in German colonial history – Guardian.

Tanzania's ambassador to Paris, Juma Mwapachu, has been appointed Secretary-General of the East African Community – Mtanzania.

Following the publication of cartoons critical of the Prophet Mohammad, a large and peaceful demonstration arrived at the Danish and Norwegian embassies in Dar es Salaam on February 17 after all officials had left. The demonstrators carried a number of placards: ‘Danish and Norwegians must leave Tanzania immediately. You must convert into Islam?’,
Danish and European countries behave yourselves or else? The demonstrators stressed that the Prophet Muhammad was the only Prophet of God and no human being had a right to ridicule him. Addressing thousands of Muslims at Jangwani grounds, the Chairman of the ‘Consultative Council for Imams (Tanzania)’ said that Muslims had issued an ultimatum to the two embassies to recant. We want them to admit that insulting the Holy Prophet is a mortal sin. “They should tell their governments to enact laws which prohibit insulting religions”. He added: “If this is not done in 21 days from today, Muslims will boycott all products and services from the two countries and we will request our government to cut diplomatic ties with Denmark and Norway” – Guardian.

A recent poll by the website www.responsibletravel.com, based on nearly 60,000 responses, has placed Tanzania in the top three countries for eco-tourism. Kenya and Egypt were the other two countries finishing in the top three. The Serengeti National Park was recently named by the National Geographic Magazine as one of the 50 must-see places in the world. Over 75% of the visitors to Tanzania last year said they went for the wildlife.

Dar es Salaam is to introduce a total of 110 new buses with a carrying capacity of 150 passengers each to replace about 1,900 minibuses (better known as dalla dallas that have been operating in the city for the past 10 years. The new buses would serve more than 200,000 people per day. The mini buses will be redeployed from the city to ply feeder roads – East African

Three American tourists died and five others were injured when rocks fell on them while climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. In this first incidence of its kind 23 local guides and porters escaped unhurt. The incident happened at 9.30 am at Arrow Glacier near West Ridge which is 4,800 metres above sea level - Nipashe.

The film ‘Darwin’s Nightmare’ which was shown on British TV recently, has been accused of ‘smearing’ the people of Mwanza. It shows how people near Lake Victoria produce fish for the European market but they themselves end up fighting over the fins and offal while the fillet is being processed for export to Europe. The film also covers in depth the way in which the ecology of the Lake has changed dramatically over recent years and how the Nile Perch has become totally dominant.
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REVIEWs

Edited by John Cooper-Poole (UK) and Marion Doro (USA)


The special nature of Tanzanian marine life has most recently been brought to the attention of newspaper readers in the UK through the re-discovery of the coelacanth, a fish that was thought to have been extinct for at least the last 70 million years. In January 2006, The Observer ran an article on the regular appearance of these strange fish – which have no backbone, and sport four limb-like appendages – in nets in shallow waters off the Tanzanian coast. The implication of the article was that these rare and endangered fish are being driven into shallow water by deep water trawling in the coelacanth’s offshore habitat.

Like elsewhere in the world, Tanzania’s marine ecosystem is coming under increasing, and unprecedented risks. Threats include over-exploitation (of, for example, deep sea habitats like that of the coelacanth, but also of resources closer to shore: mangroves, lobster and coral); destructive fishing methods (dynamiting, poisoning), industrial and domestic pollution; potential unregulated tourism development and global climate change.

Tanzania has over 1,400 km of coastline and its territorial seas (extending up to 12 nautical miles from the coast) cover an area of 37,000 square kilometres. At present, only 1,380 square kilometres of these waters (less than 4%) enjoy some form of protection. Blueprint 2050 is a series of chapters on managing a sustainable and profitable marine environment for mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. Chapters include ecological protection, poverty alleviation, financial sustainability and institutional robustness. Each chapter draws on work by a number of authors.

It is called Blueprint 2050 because it sets out a vision for the next 50 years or so for development and conservation of the coastal and marine ecosystems of Tanzania and Zanzibar. This vision is set out in the context of the commitment of the Tanzanian Government to place 10% of coastal and marine waters in marine protected areas (MPAs) by 2012 and 20% by 2025. The book’s vision is for a network of managed marine areas that would be co-ordinated to form a national system. The priority areas include four along the mainland coast.
(Tanga region, Dar es Salaam - Bagamoyo, Rufiji-Mafia Kliwa- Songo Songo complex and Mtara/Lindi districts), two comprising the marine areas of the Zanzibar Islands (Pemba, Unguja), and one oceanic island (Latham Island). The vision has the support of the Tanzanian Government and the World Bank.

A feature of the book is the sections called, for example, “an ecologist speaks” or “an economist speaks” which define technical terms. The book is nicely produced on glossy paper with colour illustrations. It concludes with a comprehensive list of sources, further reading and reference texts for each chapter.

David Bowers


I read these two books whilst attending a pre-G8 (Gleneagles) specialist conference on Higher Education in Africa. Amidst a fair amount of gloom there we had growing hopes that advocacy for higher education in the Commission for Africa Report and the expected additional resources could make a real difference. But there is much to be done. Higher education systems worldwide are undergoing massive change. The impetus that provided secondary education for many in the twentieth century is likely to have its equivalent in HE in the twenty first. However, as we know from the highly charged fees debate in England, growing systems represent formidable resource problems. Africa is no exception and the run-down of facilities and infrastructure in the most prestigious of institutions is an international scandal.

William Sambo’s study of the impact of civil wars on basic education does not address higher education directly. He is, however, concerned with teachers and the truly dreadful conditions of schooling among displaced persons. Within the development community educational provision for the millions of children who have become refugees is rarely mentioned. Sambo’s short study usefully describes the impact of civil war on educational opportunity, not just for those directly affected, but for neighbouring communities destabilized by
Kilba Nkulu’s study focuses on the challenges facing African universities today. To what extent do they have to mimic European models in order to succeed on the world stage? Is there an African dimension or approach which can break with the colonial past? There are no neat solutions of course, but Nkulu very usefully charts the development of ideas, particularly in East Africa which hold out the hope of some new directions. He looks in particular detail at Nyerere’s contribution to re-thinking higher education and points to his reported linkage of freedom and development, a theme that has to-day been revisited so influentially by Amatyra Sen. For readers unfamiliar with the history of Tanzania, Nkulu’s book provides a welcome antidote to some contemporary but untutored perceptions of the early years of post independence. Whilst I could see some omissions (issues surrounding the privatization of higher education, for example), this is a stimulating analysis of a crucially important issue.

Bob Moon.


Budget reform fits into a broad context of public-sector improvement in Tanzania. This article discusses the progress in reforms up to the end of 2002. Despite many steps forward, overall reform progress has been slow. The Tanzanian case is a prime example of a reform “work in progress”, with reformers choosing a measured, gradual approach that accommodates necessary improvements in capacity and the development of reform structures and coalitions along the way. Reform implementation has not been quite so purposeful, and its slow pace is due to problems experienced and not sufficiently dealt with, including capacity limitations, varying reform support and will, and problematic reform coordination.


Under British Rule the law of contract, fundamental to commercial life and economic development, was applied in East Africa in the form of the Indian
Contract Act, 1872, based on English law. Dr Nditi offers a compact outline of the main principles of contract law and its inevitably technical rules, focussing on the (mainland) Tanzanian Law of Contract Act enacted in 1961, before independence. He states that “this follows very closely” the Indian act, without noting that it harmonised laws within the United Republic by borrowing directly the Contract Decree of Zanzibar, which replaced the Indian act there as early as 1917. Both laws omit the numerous “explanations” and “illustrations” which helped the Indian courts to interpret the original provisions. In a divergent approach, Kenya, from 1961 and Uganda from 1963 replaced the Indian Act with the uncodified, contemporary “common law” of England, its principles enshrined in judgements, some dating from previous centuries, with some English statutes.

The book is clearly based on lectures to first year law students. Some, but unhelpfully not all, of the statutory provisions discussed are quoted. English and Indian law is invoked to interpret some sections, occasionally at excessive length, but with few specific references to Kenya or Uganda. Local customary laws of contracts remain significant, especially in the rural economies, but receive only a cursory introduction (pp 4-10).

The book appears to have been long in the press: a 1980 judgement is cited as “a recent case” and only four later cases are cited in a footnote without discussion. Law reporting in East Africa has certainly had a chequered recent history, but by 1999 annual volumes of leading Tanzanian judgements up to 1997 had been published, including a few contract cases. The omission of later cases means that the book is no more up to date than Hodgin’s much more comprehensive “Law of Contract in East Africa” (1975 reprinted 1982), which also included the full texts of the Contract Acts.

Jim Read


As with any collection with Mwalimu Nyerere’s speeches, the most striking thing about this book is the sparkling quality of the prose itself. Nyerere’s optimism is a refreshing change from the parade of horrors that so often take the place of critical discourse about Africa. The non-governmental organisation Haki Elimu has partnered with the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation and E & D
Ltd, Publishers to produce this collection of Nyerere’s thoughts on education that include several speeches not published in the standard collections of his speeches. The main shortcoming of the book is that it is only a collection and contains very little analysis that places Nyerere’s thoughts in a 21st century context.

Still, simply by excerpting the speeches in chronological order one can infer various trajectories in Nyerere’s thinking on this subject that was obviously a major priority. The collection contains both excerpts and full speeches by Nyerere from 1954 to 1998 printed in the language in which they were delivered, including both the English and Swahili texts of his key essay, “Education for Self Reliance”. Marjorie Mbilinyi, a long time Professor at the University of Dar es Salaam, gives a short introduction which offers at least a minimal discussion of Nyerere’s ideas, their historical context and their relevance today. Her assertion that “many of the challenges raised…are even more relevant today” leaves the reader thirsting for a more in-depth discussion of just how these ideas could be practised today and to what extent they ever were successfully implemented. A commendable companion volume is Lene Buchert’s out of print “Education in the Development of Tanzania, 1919-1990” (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 1994), which provides a well-researched historical context for Nyerere’s initiatives.

The lack of context, however, only serves to highlight the universality of these ideas which really are important in and of themselves. Evident throughout is the consistency of Nyerere’s basic priorities that education should be for service and not for self, that primary education is a fundamental right of citizenship, and that primary school graduates should feel a sense of accomplishment upon graduation and not a sense of failure if they should not go on to secondary school. Tanzania’s high literacy and high primary school enrolment rates are perhaps Nyerere’s greatest educational accomplishments. Typically, Nyerere urged caution rather than celebration. Indeed, this achievement took hardly less time than his 1954 prediction of how long it would take the colonial system to achieve the same goal. This raises many questions about the structural limits on educational development in Africa, and the enormous administrative challenge of simply keeping up with population growth. Nyerere is a critical thinker for modern Africa on many issues, and for him, education was central for them all. Nyerere on education is a key reference for scholars interested in Africa today.

Paul Bjerk.
Reviews


This is a well written and clear book which anyone involved in international development should find stimulating and students of Tanzanian history should find a critical account of the Ujamaa period. Land development issues are analysed for the 35 years since the Ujamaa concept of rural resettlement began in the late 1960s. The location is Chekereni village which lies 15 km south of Moshi town where the Moshi to Kahe road crosses the railway. It became known as “Chekereni” in Swahili from an English road sign to “check the train”. Chekereni became a famous Ujamaa village in the 1970s.

Lerise concludes that water disputes still occur in Chekereni and agricultural productivity remains much the same as at independence in 1962, despite large investments of time and effort by government agencies and international donors. The book addresses why planning policy has not led to sustained improvements in agricultural productivity despite Tanzania being regarded as famous for rural development planning.

Lerise has made a thorough analysis of development in Chekereni and has not hesitated to be critical of where and why the various attempts to introduce land use systems and water allocation and distribution methods, have been unsuccessful in the long term. The pre-independence situation is briefly analysed to set the scene of land use and ownership before Ujamaa was imposed and migrants arrived to settle on what was then considered to be plenty of land.

Land reform and the introduction of modern irrigation methods in Chekereni was a main component of the integrated development plan for Kilimanjaro Region and the book devotes several chapters to describe how water use was planned by expert teams and to what extent the villagers became involved in decision making. These chapters provide a valuable insight into what went on but the most fascinating part is the last quarter of the book. Here the author gives his opinions on how top-down planning dominated development despite long standing attempts, going back to the 1950s, to have smallholder villagers take part in planning.

Jim Watson
CONFRONTING NEW REALITIES: REFLECTIONS ON TANZANIA’S RADICAL TRANSFORMATION. Juma V. Mwapachu

E&D Limited, PO Box 4460, Dar es Salaam, 2005.

Juma V. Mwapachu’s book provides an account of the macro-economic and political changes that have occurred since Nyerere left office in 1985. Mwapachu is Tanzania’s ambassador to France and founder member of the Confederation of Tanzania Industries, and was a member of a number of influential Presidential Committees, including the Mtei and Nyalali Commissions, and so he speaks with authority on Tanzania’s reforms. He argues that the market economy is the efficient, prudent and necessary means for providing economic prosperity for Tanzania in the context of the current global economic order. But he believes it is also necessary to have a strong state, to provide not only effective regulation, but also a strong and visionary leadership to promote the reforms. He cites Nyerere’s leadership here, urging that the present leaders of Tanzania enliven the population to follow the Development Vision 2025, adopted in 1999, with the same vigour with which they followed the Arusha Declaration over thirty years earlier.

Julius Nyerere is a key figure throughout the book, and the opening section is entitled “Homage to Mwalimu Julius Nyerere”. Yet Mwapachu admits he disagrees with Nyerere on many key issues, most notably on the role of the market, especially in agriculture. However, he argues that the objective of building a society based upon human dignity, respect and social justice remains the same from the Arusha Declaration; it is only the means of achieving this society that have changed. As Nyerere’s socialism was primarily distributive rather than productive, the market economy is merely a different means to achieve the same ends as Nyerere did through state ownership. Quite how macroeconomic stability, that Mwapachu admits does not necessarily lead to poverty reduction, fits with Nyerere’s idea “the purpose is man”, remains a contentious question.

Mwapachu deals directly with many of the important current issues of debate in Tanzania. For example, he strongly argues against the current suspicion of investment by foreign companies. He also tackles the union question. The author provides many practical measures and suggests many new policy initiatives, from methods of engaging with civil society to the introduction of a proportionally representative electoral system.

While Mwapachu is clearly well read in the current literature on globalisation from Europe and the US, he admits that he does not seek to challenge
the Tanzanian critics of globalisation, such as Shivji and Chachage. Rather, he seeks only to address how Tanzania should react to the new globalised economic “reality”. Given that Mwapachu praises Nyerere’s challenging of conventional wisdom and Western liberal orthodoxy, the acceptance of this “reality” without argument strikes as an omission. It would have been interesting to see more of an engagement with the local critics of globalisation, not least because Mwapachu is a thoughtful and engaging writer.

The book covers a wide territory, and is comprehensive in analysing the major policy shifts, especially in the period since 1997. There are also many interesting asides that provide food for thought, on issues as diverse as the branding of Tanzania, the role of the University, and the Nobel Peace Prize. However, the book is over long, there is much repetition of argument, and so a tighter structure would have been welcomed.

Tom Fisher


Readers familiar with the Maasai will be intrigued by this fascinating analysis based on the evolving spiritual development of Maasai women in their extended relationship with missionaries of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit (the Spiritans) in three Monduli Catholic missions in northern Tanzania. A key factor was the extent to which the missionaries utilized inculturation as a method of conversion, i.e., allowed converts to practice traditional rituals as long as they did not compromise Church practices. This melding of Maasai customs and Catholic ceremonies re-enforced the women’s traditional beliefs; apparently this had little influence on men who were not prepared to give up any aspect of their Maasai identity. Nevertheless, there were male catechists with whom the women coped and retained their gendered influence.

The author also explores the Spiritan missionaries methods over several decades as they moved through three evangelization strategies, i.e., a “school” approach of teaching and converting children, the “boma” approach of a direct communication with adults, and in the 1970s the “individual” approach of creating meeting places near homestead for individuals. Ultimately through the inculturation process these methods incorporated a variety of customary as well as religious practices resulting in substantial spiritual development and cultural
space for the women. What this means for Maasai culture and Maasai women in the future remains to be seen.

Based on Hodgson’s extensive evidence – primary sources as well as over 300 secondary sources – as well as intermittent field research in the Monduli area over a twenty-year period. Readers may recall her earlier work, Once Intrepid Warriors: Gender, Ethnicity, and the Cultural Politics of Maasai Development (Indiana University Press, 2001) reviewed in T.A. No. 76.

Marion Doro


This paper draws on a case study of violent political conflict labeled “terrorist” in Zanzibar. We examine the political opportunities and social movement organizations as they have framed and mobilized racial and religious conflicts on the island. This case illustrates three points relevant to the study of terrorism that have been argued in the sociological literature on social movements and violent conflict. (1) “Terrorists” are rational actors; (2), terrorism is one of many tactics potentially used by any social movement to achieve political ends; and (3), terrorism is relational; that is, its rise and trajectory must be understood in relation to other groups, and in response to perceptions of threat.


This important book is a study of the problems of rapid urbanisation experienced by Dar es Salaam throughout the colonial period, and how the response of colonial legislation to this phenomenon came to target and criminalize young rural-urban migrants (wahuni).

Divided into three themes of urbanisation and policy, crime, and colonial order post-WWII, it begins with a background chapter on how Tanganyika policy was influenced by earlier Western responses to mass urbanisation and policy in South Africa and Kenya. The first section delves into the formation of policy condoning racial segregation, crude official definitions of who was and was not the ideal urban dweller, the ‘unwelcome’ drift to town by curious youth, their subsequent categorisation as ‘undesirable’ and the repressive legislation enacted to remove them. Though unsaid, this section touches on the fallacy of
inter-war indirect rule: that the African was considered ‘a simple agriculturalist’ unsuited for urban life where only demoralisation awaited.

The second part looks at crime in the city. It argues that policy came to be responsible for actually producing much of the crime that occurred in Dar, by criminalizing young migrants who came to represent a focus for popular fears of delinquency among officials, settlers and African elites. It is here that what has since become known as the ‘informal economy’ becomes associated with crime.

In the final section these overlapping themes are pulled together, presented against the background of a dramatic increase in urbanisation rates over and post-WWII and the shift to a more ‘development’ orientated colonial policy. The intensification of ‘repatriation campaigns’ of the 1940s-50s and the wahumi raids (daily occurrences by the late 1950s) are detailed and linked into the denial of urban residence for unemployed (or informally employed) Africans.

Accessible and informative, some excellent maps and photographs adorn its pages and the thematic approach works. However, I would question the book’s periodisation – a large leap is made in the conclusion to link colonial legacy

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with the present-day. Further, the top-heavy archival analysis weakens the
defence for neglecting the social, particularly as the few examples of ‘some
undesirables’ illuminate the experiences of victims. More interviews would
not have gone amiss.

Quibbles aside, the book is an important text for contemporary policy planners
and analysts to remind them of this striking fact: urban policies have been
founded ‘upon a marked antipathy towards urbanisation’. I recommend it be
read in conjunction with the author’s edited volume on the Urban Experience
of Eastern Africa published three years ago.

T. Cadogan

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