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Exploring Economic Reintegration in Namibia: Individual Trajectories of PLAN Ex-Fighters and SWAPO Exiles, 1989–2018 draws from life histories to present constraints and possibilities that have shaped former SWAPO exiles’ economic reintegration in post-colonial Namibia from 1989 through 2018. The book advances three arguments, each of which pushes beyond existing scholarship on Namibia and/or economic reintegration broadly. Collectively, these arguments challenge dominant narratives that have generalized former SWAPO exiles’ economic reintegration experiences, highlighting that there is no single narrative that can describe their unique life stories of reintegration in the post-colony.

Tichaona Mazarire obtained his PhD in Africa Studies (trans-disciplinary doctorate degree) from the University of the Free State (2020). He is currently a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the School of Government Studies at North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, South Africa. His research interests include African politics, public policy and socio-economic inequalities. This book is based on his doctoral thesis.
“The child means the family, the child means the future, the child means the community. Our goal is to strengthen our understanding of African families and institutions so that they in turn can invest in their future, their children.”
Steve Howard, Editor, CAJ

Children’s Understandings of Health and Illness in Northern Namibia—We Have a Lot to Tell explores the daily worlds of children in the Ohangewena region, sharing their involvement and eager voices on health and illness in northern Namibia. In particular, this ethnographical study, based on one year of fieldwork, reflects on the openness that is required in giving recognition to the children’s ideas, their knowledge, in providing support to individuals in the homestead and how their agency is best recognised. The study highlights children’s views, presents children as social actors in their own right and documents their perspectives on, and participation in, the social world. This work acknowledges that even though children may not occupy central social, political and economic roles in society, it is important to see that they have agency and can and do make active contributions to society.

Rosa Persendt obtained her PhD from the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand for the thesis which comprises this book. She is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Namibia in Windhoek.
Diamond Warriors in Colonial Namibia enters into unchartered scholarly territory of illegal diamond smuggling at the largest diamond mining company in colonial Namibia—De Beers’ Consolidated Diamond Mines of South West Africa (CDM). It details the underground activities of the natives (migrant workers) employed by the CDM and how these illicit activities accounted for rapid development in Owamboland. Beyond this account, the book takes on the deterministic ‘natural resource curse’ theory that equates natural resource endowments to a curse resulting in underdevelopment and sometimes conflict. It is argued and proven here-in, from a decolonial standpoint, that such an approach is an oversimplification of the political economy of natural resources in Africa in general and Namibia in particular. The text also provides a contextual account of the contract labour system and details the symbiotic relationship between CDM and the colonial state before highlighting the remaining unanswered questions and areas of further research.

Job Shipululo Amupanda is a Namibian political scientist and activist with research interest in decoloniality, developmental state and black consciousness. He is employed as a Senior Lecturer in the department of Political Science at the University of Namibia. He holds a PhD in Political Studies (University of Namibia). He served as a Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences (2016–2021) and is currently the Mayor of the City of Windhoek.
Research into the history of Christian missions in the context of colonialism has focused primarily on missions as institutions and on the ways in which people were integrated into the economic, political and ideological spheres of imperial powers. Reduced to an experience occurring within a person, faith was deemed unapproachable by scientific methods. This has, in effect, constituted a silence regarding the everyday experience of religiosity among those drawn to Christianity.

The *Ethnography of Faith* is a detailed study of the ways in which people engage with and experience the religious in order to recognise and understand this suppressed voice of religiosity. In her analysis of the Lutheran church in the Soutpansberg of early 20th century South Africa, Caroline Jeannerat listens closely to how people describe their own faith and that of others in the archive: in accounts of work done, in texts written for mission publications, in songs composed for church services, in letters and newspaper articles, and in oral memories. A careful reading of this archive—for breaks, for misunderstandings and oppositions, for sentiments of agreement, praise, compatibility and claims of shared experiences—identifies negotiations of meaning which give indications of conceptualisations of faith that stand in distinction to those of the missionaries and their expectations.

Caroline Jeannerat holds a PhD in history and anthropology from the University of Michigan (2007). She worked as a postdoctoral researcher at WISER, University of the Witwatersrand, from 2007–2009 and at the Centre for Culture and Languages in Africa at the University of Johannesburg from 2009–2011. From 2011–2013 she was lecturer of history at the St Augustine College of South Africa. Since 2014 she is a freelance academic copy-editor and proofreader. She is also the copy-editor for the *Anthropology Southern Africa* journal and the *South African Historical Journal*. 
The title of this book originates from the Namibian Evangelists's self-description. African evangelists of the Rhenish Mission Society (RMS) played a crucial but mostly overlooked role in shaping the spiritual and social networks that transformed indigenous communities from the early nineteenth century. The author draws from a wide range of German, Namibian and South African archival sources that have been supplemented with a large number of interviews, to explore the history of the indigenous evangelists of the RMS.

African supporters were often the first heralds of the new religion at remote villages and cattle posts before the white strangers made an appearance. The Namibian evangelists’ familiarity with the traditional culture and the local vernacular endowed them with a credibility that many of the European newcomers found difficult to acquire.

By interweaving mission and church history between 1820 and 1990 with a biographical approach, the author brings a hidden chapter in Namibian history to life.

Hans-Martin Milk, born in southern Africa, grew up in Namibia and lived there until he left into Exile in the 1970s. He returned to Namibia after Independence to teach in Kavango. During this time he started his historical research on the RMS and the Kavango.

“This carefully researched study makes an important contribution to Namibian historiography by giving names and, where possible, faces to those Africans whose work changed the fabric of indigenous Namibian communities.”

Tilman Dedering in Journal of Namibian Studies, 28 (2020)
European archives hold historical voice recordings that were produced by linguists, ethnologists and musicologists during colonial rule in African countries. While these recordings reverberate with the polyphonic echoes of colonial knowledge production, to date, acoustic collections have rarely been consulted as sources of colonial history. In this book, Anette Hoffman engages with a Southern African audio-visual collection, which is located in five different institutions across Vienna, Austria.

Several recordings collected by the anthropologist Rudolf Pöch in August 1908 have been retranslated for this book. These translations provide new insights into Pöch’s collecting expedition to the Kalahari. Pöch’s narrative of his heroic journey is called into question by the Naro speakers’ comments, which address colonial violence and criticise the research practices of the anthropologist. By attending to the spoken texts on the recordings and reconnecting them to photographs, ethnographic objects, archival documentation and Pöch’s travelogue, Hoffmann offers a different reading of this research trip into a war zone.

“Hoffmann’s work provides a detailed analysis of the significance of historical sound recordings for challenging the colonial archive. Whilst her analysis is presented from a historical archive studies perspective, her ideas deserve to be taken up by anthropologists who are engaged in historical ethnography and may even inspire any decolonial-minded researcher in anthropology, and beyond.”

Anthropology Southern Africa
A rich collection of captivating and remarkable chapters, *Writing Namibia. Coming of Age* presents research of senior academics as well as emerging scholars from Namibia. The book includes wide-ranging topics in literature written in English and other Namibian languages such as German, Afrikaans and Oshiwambo. Almost thirty years after independence, Namibian literature has come of age with new writers experimenting with different genres and varied aspects of literature. As an aesthetic object and social phenomenon, Namibian literature still fulfils the function of social conscience, and as new writers emerge, there is ample demonstration that, pluri-vocal as they are, Namibian literary texts relate in a complex manner to the socio-historical trends shaping the country. The Namibian literary-critical tradition continues to paint some versions of Namibia, and what we find in this new and highly welcome volume is a canvas of rich voices and perspectives that demonstrate an intricate diversity in terms of culture, language, and themes.

Sarala Krishnamurthy is a Professor of English and Applied Linguistics in the Faculty of Human Sciences at the Namibia University of Science and Technology.

Nelson Mlambo is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Namibia, Department of Humanities and Arts.

Helen Vale taught literature at the English Department of the University of Namibia from 1991–2007 and has authored several publications in the literary field.
This book contains the facsimile reprint of the first African newspaper published in Namibia, *South West News/SuidWes Nuus*. Issued in 1960 in Windhoek, it has to be regarded as the earliest example of independent African journalism in Namibia. *South West News* was the only newspaper in Namibia at the time with a non-racial and nationalist concept. It was also a community paper for the Old Location, the African township in Windhoek, whose residents were threatened with forced removals. The paper was launched shortly after the shootings at the Old Location in December 1959. It published statements by Hosea Kutako, SWANU as well as OPO/SWAPO and the testimonies of Mburumba Kerina, Jariretundu Kozonguizi and Sam Nujoma at the hearings of the UN Committee on South-West Africa in New York. It reported on social events in the Old Location, on the Maharero-Day in Okahandja and on the funeral of Chief Josaphat Kambazembi. *South West News* was one of the few public documents representing African issues to Africans themselves, and to the colonial society in Namibia at large. Today, the newspaper is largely forgotten. This book makes *South West News* accessible again and examines its history and contents.

Zedekia Ngavirue (1933–2021) was a co-founder and former editor of *South West News* (1960). At the time he was the only social worker in the Old Location of Windhoek and a leading member of SWANU. Twelve years later he obtained his PhD at the University of Oxford, on the political history of Namibia. After Namibia’s independence in 1990, he held numerous government and diplomatic positions.

Dag Henrichsen is a Namibian historian at the Basler Afrika Bibliographien (BAB), Namibia Resource Centre, in Switzerland.
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