

# Understanding Contemporary Africa Understanding Introductions To The States And Regions Of The Contemporary World

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## SHANE GRIMES

### **The Making of Contemporary Africa** Lynne Rienner Pub

This volume delineates the critical link among security, education and development in Africa and provides a multidisciplinary framework of analyses and possible solutions. Africa has had a long history that embodies layers of mass-scale criminality and exploitation not merely from neocolonial and apartheid policies but also from political greed. This has impacted adversely on security, education and development in a way that deprivation of education and underdevelopment, in turn, re-creates security issues. The volume aims firstly to help augment scholarly inquiry into the nexus among in/security, education and development through the multidisciplinary framework of analyses; secondly to provide policymakers and educators with tools and a framework to comprehend the complexity and magnitude of the issues to which they ought to be sensitive and respond; and finally to provide caregivers and childcare agencies of the state a comprehensible framework of underlying, multifaceted sources of trauma experienced by children in extraordinary circumstances. It is organized in four sections: theoretical conceptualization on security and development; country cases on security and development; security and educational development; and country cases on security and education. Serving as a significant compass to understand and respond to the complex interplay and impact of security, education and development in Africa, it is of great use to graduates and scholars interested in Africa Politics, IPE, security studies and development studies.

### **Peacebuilding in Contemporary Africa** Oxford University Press

An important feature of Ghanaian tertiary education is the foundational African Studies Programme which was initiated in the early 1960s. Unfortunately hardly any readers exist which bring together a body of knowledge on the themes, issues and debates which inform and animate research and teaching in African Studies particularly on the African continent. This becomes even more important when we consider the need for knowledge on Africa that is not Eurocentric or sensationalised, but driven from internal understandings of life and prospects in Africa. Dominant representations and

perceptions of Africa usually depict a continent in crisis. Rather than buying into external representations of Africa, with its 'lacks' and aspirations for Western modernities, we insist that African scholars in particular should be in the forefront of promoting understanding of the pluri-lingual, overlapping, and dense reality of life and developments on the continent, to produce relevant and usable knowledge. Continuing and renewed interest in Africa's resources, including the land mass, economy, minerals, visual arts and performance cultures, as well as bio-medical knowledge and products, by old and new geopolitical players, obliges African scholars to transcend disciplinary boundaries and to work with each other to advance knowledge and uses of those resources in the interests of Africa's people.

### **Contemporary African Social and Political Philosophy** AuthorHouse

The new edition of this popular and widely-used text includes entirely new chapters on political economy and South Africa and has been thoroughly revised throughout to reflect the major changes in Africa and in the wider world since the end of the Cold War. Broadly encompassing, challenging and timely, the book is a major contribution to our understanding of the multiple forces at work on the continent.

### *Anthropology and Development* University of Chicago Press

The Bible : a history of interpretation and methods /Johanna Stiebert --An overview of the Old Testament /Lovemore Togarasei --Major theological themes in the Old Testament /Masego Kanis and Lovemore Togarasei --A survey of the New Testament /Lovemore Togarasei --Major themes in the New Testament /Tlali Lerotholi --Religion, race, gender, and identity /Musa Dube --Reading and understanding the Bible as an African /James N. Amanze --Introduction to Christian theology : its tasks and methods /James N. Amanze --African theology : a contextual analysis of Zimbabwe /Tabona Shoko --The role of liberation theology in the post-independent Africa and the world in the 21st century /Moji Africa Ruele --Major themes in Black theology /Francis C.L. Rakotsoane --What's in a name? : forging a theoretical framework for African women's theologies /Isabel Apawo Phiri and Sarojini Nadar --The theology of the African Independent Churches in Southern Africa : the case of Botswana /Obed N. Kealotswe --Introduction to religious studies /Francis C.L. Rakotsoane -- Phenomenology of religion /Ezra Chitando --African Traditional Religion in contemporary Africa :

challenges and prospects /James N. Amanze --Christianity in Africa in the 21st century /Fidelis Nkomanzana --Africa's Muslims : expressing their religious identity /Muhammed Haron --Hinduism and Buddhism : an introduction /Garth Mason --A general introduction to philosophy : its tasks and methods /T.A. Chimuka --Logic, critical thinking, and science /I.B. Ikpe --Introduction to epistemology /Louis M. Manyeli --African philosophy /John Ayotunde Bewaji --Moral theories /Simon Mawondo --Applied ethics /Joseph B.R. Gaie --Philosophical metaphysics in Africa /Kipton Jensen.

**Trends, Debates and Challenges** Springer Science & Business Media

This introductory book covers West Africa's history, social organization, and contemporary setting. It analyzes the many present-day problems facing West Africans such as the lack of development, dependency on economic relations with wealthy countries, poor governance, interference by the military in civilian affairs, corruption, and the lack of functioning democratic governments. This book also shows how West African indigenous civilization developed its humanitarian, democratic, and communalistic nature. Traditional political processes and ancestral customs are put forth as ways of solving West Africa's modern problems. Divided into three main parts: "The Setting and Social Organization," "The History of West Africa," and "The Modern Era," the main objective of this textbook is to teach students about the depth of African civilization and how its principles can be used to address modern-day problems in West Africa. Mendonsa expresses the opinion that in order to solve current problems plaguing the region, a knowledge of history, African culture, and ancient African beliefs is crucial. The Teacher's Manual includes chapter outlines and summaries, key points, sample questions, and suggested films and websites.

**Understanding Contemporary Social Change** Routledge

60 years after independence, African nations still find it difficult to face a number of challenges, from establishing meaningful democratic institutions to establish social structures centered on the advancement of gender equality. This volume approaches these contemporary African challenges while combating a reflexive and facile Afro-Pessimism.

**African Intelligence Services** Princeton University Press

It is impossible to study Africa without understanding the debate about how to study Africa. At last, a book showcases the complexities and paradoxes of Africa's recent and more distant history, while avoiding simplistic, Eurocentric conceptualizations of "black Africa." With this book, Peyi Soyinka-Aiwerele and Rita Kiki Edozie offer students the background and perspectives they need to comprehend the dynamics of the continent as well as a clear path through the current literature and scholarly debate. With a cross-disciplinary approach that features political, historical, and economic analysis as well as popular culture and sociological views on contemporary issues, *Reframing Contemporary Africa* provides an unparalleled breadth of coverage. Essays written by a distinguished and international group of scholars--including William Ackah, Pius Adesanmi, Susan Craddock, Caroline Elkins, Siba Grovogui, Mahmood Mamdani, Mutua Makau, Celestin Monga, Wole Soyinka, and Paul Tiyambe Zeleza--are designed to distill original scholarship for undergraduate readers. Each contribution helps students engage with the work and arguments of luminaries while exposing them to renowned African thinkers. Contributors deliver analysis that allows students to see beyond the clichés commonly presented in the media (and even in scholarship), and helpful section openers by Soyinka-Aiwerele and Edozie frame forthcoming chapters, giving important

thematic and historical context. *Reframing Contemporary Africa* will certainly provoke new debate and reflection, not merely about African issues and politics, but also about the West and its framing of Africa.

**African Legal Theory and Contemporary Problems** Lynne Rienner Pub

*Religions in Contemporary Africa* is an accessible and comprehensive introduction to the three main religious traditions on the African continent, African indigenous religions, Christianity and Islam. The book provides a historical overview of these important traditions and focuses on the roles they play in African societies today. It includes social, cultural and political case studies from across the continent on the following topical issues: Witchcraft and modernity Power and politics Conflict and peace Media and popular culture Development Human rights Illness and health Gender and sexuality With suggestions for further reading, discussion questions, illustrations and a list of glossary terms this is the ideal textbook for students in religion, African studies and adjacent fields approaching this subject area for the first time.

**Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism** Macmillan International Higher Education

This book explains how and why cities on the African continent have grown at such a rapid pace, how municipal authorities have tried to cope with this massive influx of people, and how long-time urban residents and newcomers interact, negotiate, and struggle over access to limited resources.

**Contemporary Africa as a Centre of Global Encounter** Zed Books Ltd.

More than three decades after its first publication, Edward Said's groundbreaking critique of the West's historical, cultural, and political perceptions of the East has become a modern classic. In this wide-ranging, intellectually vigorous study, Said traces the origins of "orientalism" to the centuries-long period during which Europe dominated the Middle and Near East and, from its position of power, defined "the orient" simply as "other than" the occident. This entrenched view continues to dominate western ideas and, because it does not allow the East to represent itself, prevents true understanding. Essential, and still eye-opening, *Orientalism* remains one of the most important books written about our divided world.

**Explorations of a Social Phenomenon** Vintage

In analyzing the obstacles to democratization in post- independence Africa, Mahmood Mamdani offers a bold, insightful account of colonialism's legacy--a bifurcated power that mediated racial domination through tribally organized local authorities, reproducing racial identity in citizens and ethnic identity in subjects. Many writers have understood colonial rule as either "direct" (French) or "indirect" (British), with a third variant--apartheid--as exceptional. This benign terminology, Mamdani shows, masks the fact that these were actually variants of a despotism. While direct rule denied rights to subjects on racial grounds, indirect rule incorporated them into a "customary" mode of rule, with state-appointed Native Authorities defining custom. By tapping authoritarian possibilities in culture, and by giving culture an authoritarian bent, indirect rule (decentralized despotism) set the pace for Africa; the French followed suit by changing from direct to indirect administration, while apartheid emerged relatively later. Apartheid, Mamdani shows, was actually the generic form of the colonial state in Africa. Through case studies of rural (Uganda) and urban (South Africa) resistance movements, we learn how these institutional features fragment resistance and how states tend to

play off reform in one sector against repression in the other. The result is a groundbreaking reassessment of colonial rule in Africa and its enduring aftereffects. Reforming a power that institutionally enforces tension between town and country, and between ethnicities, is the key challenge for anyone interested in democratic reform in Africa.

*How Europe Underdeveloped Africa* Routledge

The fourth edition of *Understanding the Contemporary Middle East* has been fully revised and updated throughout to reflect the still-unfolding impact of the Arab Spring, the changing international environment, the impasse in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and much more. The book also includes an entirely new chapter on the role of women in the Middle East. Maps, photographs, and details of basic political data enhance the text, widely acknowledged as the best available introduction to the region.

**Understanding the Contemporary Middle East** Springer

This volume brings together seven empirically grounded contributions by African social scientists of different disciplinary backgrounds. The authors explore the social impact of religious innovation and competition in present day Africa. They represent a selection from an interdisciplinary initiative that made 23 research grants for theologians and social scientists to study Christianity and social change in contemporary Africa. These contributions focus on a variety of dynamics in contemporary African religion (mostly Christianity), including gender, health and healing, social media, entrepreneurship, and inter-religious borrowing and accommodation. The volume seeks to enhance understanding of religion's vital presence and power in contemporary Africa. It reveals problems as well as possibilities, notably some ethical concerns and psychological maladies that arise in some of these new movements, notably neo-Pentecostal and militant fundamentalist groups. Yet the contributions do not fixate on African problems and victimization. Instead, they explore sources of African creativity, resiliency and agency. The book calls on scholars of religion and religiosity in Africa to invest new conceptual and methodological energy in understanding what it means to be actively religious in Africa today.

*Understanding Contemporary China* Lynne Rienner Pub

This book explores key innovations in Rwandan law, exploring how the homegrown legal system with the civil law and common law legal systems.

**The Contemporary Challenges of African Development:** Routledge

This book explores what constitutes contemporary African social and political philosophy with regard to its meaning, aims, sources, and relevance for today's Africa. Kasanda denounces conventional approaches considering these either as a subcategory of general philosophy or as the ideological attempts of individual African leaders and professional philosophers, such as Nkrumah, Nyerere, Senghor, Fanon, Hountondji and Towa. On the contrary, Kasanda defines contemporary African social and political philosophy as an inclusive reflection of African communities with regard to power and equitable modes of social and political organization in order to promote human excellence for everyone. This perspective also includes the criticism of social and political concepts in use within African communities. The author postulates that contemporary African social and political philosophy relies on the legacy of precolonial African societies, as well as on the contribution of the diaspora throughout the world. Contemporary African social and political philosophy is rooted in the daily

lives of African people, and it expresses itself through multiple modalities including, for example, art, religion, literature, music and the policy of urbanization of African cities. This book sheds new light on debates concerning topics such as ethnophilosophy, negritude, pan-Africanism, democracy, African civil society, African cultures, and globalization. It aims to ward off the lethargy that strikes African social and political philosophy, taking a renewed and critical approach.

**Orientalism** Cambridge University Press

How are we to explain the resurgence of customary chiefs in contemporary Africa? Rather than disappearing with the tide of modernity, as many expected, indigenous sovereigns are instead a rising force, often wielding substantial power and legitimacy despite major changes in the workings of the global political economy in the post-Cold War era—changes in which they are themselves deeply implicated. This pathbreaking volume, edited by anthropologists John L. Comaroff and Jean Comaroff, explores the reasons behind the increasingly assertive politics of custom in many corners of Africa. Chiefs come in countless guises—from university professors through cosmopolitan businessmen to subsistence farmers—but, whatever else they do, they are a critical key to understanding the tenacious hold that “traditional” authority enjoys in the late modern world. Together the contributors explore this counterintuitive chapter in Africa's history and, in so doing, place it within the broader world-making processes of the twenty-first century.

*Understanding Contemporary Ethiopia* African Books Collective

This new edition of *Understanding Contemporary Latin America* has been thoroughly revised to reflect many significant events and trends of the past six years. The book includes entirely new chapters on economics and religion, as well as extensively updated material on politics, the military, international relations, environmental issues, nationalism, the role of women, and more. It is an indispensable introduction, both descriptive and analytical, to complexities of contemporary Latin America.

Lynne Rienner Pub

*Contemporary Africa*, edited by Toyin Falola captures the challenges, optimism and problems that face modern Africa, notably those of economic underdevelopment and political instability. African countries seek various answers, and they have recorded varying degrees of success as they attempt to unite their peoples to build strong nations, develop their economies, and stabilize their politics. Failures have equally been recorded in a number of places, although these have not prevented the search for new solutions nor dampened the enthusiasm of Africans in liberating themselves from poverty. Among the leading issues that the volume pays attention to are: the achievements of independence, the colonial legacy, Africa's place in global affairs, economic development, political instability, and the challenges of renewal in the 21st century. This is the fifth volume in a series of textbooks entitled *Africa*. Contributors to the volumes are African Studies teachers from a variety of schools and settings. Writing from their individual areas of expertise, these authors work together to break stereotypes about Africa, focusing instead on the substantive issues of the African past from the perspectives of Africans themselves. The organization of the books is flexible enough to suit the needs of any instructor, and the texts include illustrations, maps and timelines to make cultural and historical movements clearer. Suggestions for further reading that will help students broaden their own interests are also included. Africa challenges the accepted ways of studying Africa and

encourages students who are eager to learn about the diversity of the African experience.

**Cities in Contemporary Africa** Langaa RPCID

This edited collection explores African intelligence services from both scholarly and professional perspectives.

*Early Postcolonial and Contemporary Challenges* Macmillan International Higher Education

Looking at protests from Senegal to Kenya, Lisa Mueller shows how cross-class coalitions fuel contemporary African protests across the continent.