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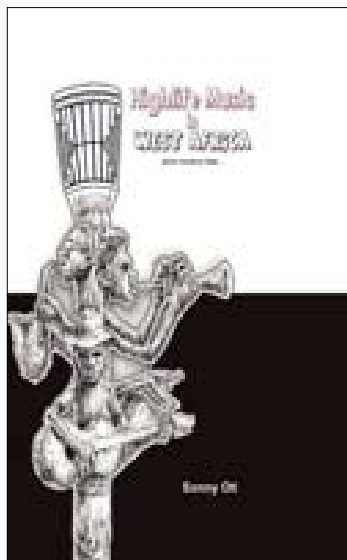
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Featured Title November 09



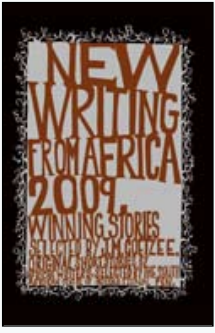
Highlife Music in West Africa

Sonny Oti

Highlife musicians may be referred to as modern African town-criers whose messages or song-texts, like drama and theatre texts, present not only Africa's culture but her social, economic and political problems. The presence of radicals and Pan-Africanists from the fifties in music has therefore lifted highlife musicians from the status of mere entertainers and nerve therapists to a more serious and responsible one, as African modern town-criers whose song-texts are communal messages, warning and counselling. This posthumous publication is an excursion into the origins and development of Highlife music in West Africa.

Read more... [click here](#)

African Literature: Collections



New Writing from Africa 2009. Stories Selected by J.M. Coetzee Edited by J.M. Coetzee

What's on the minds of African writers? The South African Chapter of PEN International asked the question, and this volume of collected works holds the answer. More than 800 pieces of new writing from across the continent flowed in once the call for entries was made for the PEN/Studzinski Literary Award. This collection contains the 34 short stories eventually selected, including the prize-winners and those receiving honourable mentions from final judge JM Coetzee.

This is a contemporary African reading journey that will take you from Algeria to Zimbabwe, with stops along the way in Nigeria, Cameroon, Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, Mauritius, Botswana, Mozambique, and South Africa. The writers are young and old, established and unpublished; the subject matter as diverse as Africa itself.

John Maxwell Coetzee is an author and academic from South Africa. A novelist and literary critic as well as a translator, Coetzee has won the **Booker Prize** twice and was awarded the 2003 **Nobel Prize in Literature**.

ISBN 9780620434287 | 406 pages | 229 x 152 mm | 2009 | Johnson & KingJames Books, South Africa | Paperback | \$34.95/£24.95

read more: [ABC](#) or [MSU Press](#)



Tell Me, Friends. Contemporary Stories and Plays of Tanzania Edited by Lilian Osaki and Lisa María B. Noudéhou

This third volume of *Tell Me, Friends* collects stories and plays written by students and staff at the University of Dar es Salaam between 2006 and 2008.

The stories in the collection are: "Our Man" by Saida Yahya-Othman; "The Window Seat" by Benjamin Branoff; "The Concealed Project" by Zuhura Badru; "The Total Crisis" by Simon Mlundi; and "Testimony" by Emmanuel Lema. The plays are: "The Monster" by Anna Chikoti; "Love is..." by Kimberly McLeod; "A Tanzanian Rooftop" by Benjamin Branoff; "Judges on Trial" by Frowin Paul Nyoni; "The Route to Success" by Yunus Ng'umbi; and "The Mop" by Vincensia Shule.

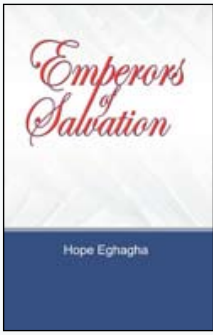
Read and share these stories and plays, and enjoy how they depict some of the social-economic and political factors that condition and shape our societies today.

Dr. Lilian Osaki and **Lisa María Burgess Noudéhou** are both in the Department of Literature at the University of Dar es Salaam

ISBN 9789987080489 | 164 pages | 203 x 127 mm | 2009 | Mkuki na Nyota Publishers, Tanzania | Paperback | 19.95/£15.95

read more: [ABC](#) or [MSU Press](#)

African Literature: Fiction



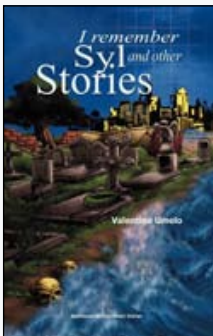
Emperors of Salvation Hope Eghagha

An idealistic lawyer is assassinated for standing up for truth and justice...Fear, treachery, betrayal and terror permeate the lives of the emperors of salvation at the mercy of the poisonous fangs of the nations redeemers. This is a captivating narration of forces at play when a young generation dream dreams in a developing country as every member of an ever-burgeoning elite is on the make.

Dr Hope Eghagha is an Associate Professor in the Department of English, University of Lagos.

ISBN 9789788422068 | 194 pages | 203 x 127 mm | 2009 | Malthouse Press, Nigeria | Paperback | \$19.95/£15.95

[read more: ABC](#) or [MSU Press](#)



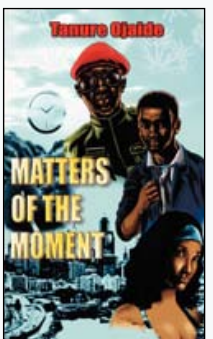
I remember Syl & Other stories Valentine Umelo

I remember Syl and Other Stories is a collection of dark stories set in West Africa.

Valentine Umelo won the **BBC African Performance Playwriting competition** in 2002 with his radio play 'Knight in Shining Armour'. He also won a UNESCO residency award for his short story writing at the Ranieri Civetelli Institute in Umbra, Italy in 2006.

ISBN 9789788422020 | 174 pages | 216 x 140 mm | 2009 | Malthouse Press, Nigeria | Paperback | \$19.95/£15.95

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Matters of the Moment Tanure Ojaide

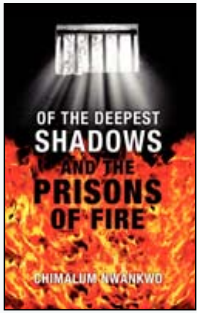
At the onset of this novel is the return of the journalist Dede Daro from the USA, where he had taken a graduate degree at one of the universities...Not surprisingly, Dede's return is the buzz of the town (Warri). In an overuse of proverbs, the elders make it known that they had expected him to go far. ..Amongst those eagerly awaiting Dede's return is of course the inevitable woman. In contrast to Dede's triumphant return, Franka is presented as the victim of life's terrible blows: she would lose her father to a snake's venomous bite; her not too educated but well-meaning mother had to work hard to see that her daughter got as good an education as the local schools could provide. Franka herself would undergo some dire deprivation in early life. Thus throughout the novel, it would seem as though the blight of poverty had marred Franka's judgments, when confronted with choices, about life. Her marriage to Dede ended in a bitter divorce, and while Dede meets another woman, Furu, with whom he was to know some kind of plenitude of his spirit, Franka descends from one fruitless relationship to another until, not surprisingly, she ends up in the bed of General Ogiso, the semi-literate and murderous military president of the country...

A renowned poet, **Tanure Ojaide** has won major national and international poetry awards, including the **Commonwealth Poetry Prize** for the Africa Region (1987), the **BBC Arts and Africa Poetry Award** (1988), twice the **All-Africa Okigbo Prize for Poetry** (1988 and 1997), and thrice the **Association of Nigerian Authors' Poetry Prize** (1988, 1994 and 2004).

ISBN 9789788422013 | 180 pages | 203 x 127 mm | 2009 | Malthouse Press, Nigeria | Paperback | \$19.95/£15.95

[read more: ABC](#) or [MSU Press](#)

African Literature: Poetry



Of the Deepest Shadows and the Prisons of Fire Chimalum Nwankwo

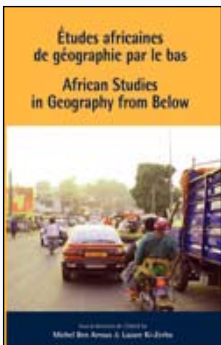
Of the Deepest Shadows and The Prisons of Fire is a literary canvas of leaders who have affected humanity in very serious and unquestionable ways. The core of this artistic engagement is the destiny of the black world. There are tangential departures into territories with crises the world cannot afford to ignore. The poet visits each leader, living or dead, with equal passion. His curious brush is delicate, ecstatic, melancholic or even celebratory depending on what image or circumstance he pans into view. This corpus comes with the characteristic anguish and tenderness of a very sensitive and caring mind...

Born in Anambra State, Nigeria, **Chimalum Nwankwo** was educated in Nigeria and the United States of America. He holds a Ph.D in English from The University of Texas, Austin, and is currently a Professor of English at North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro. His other publications include the following poetry collections: *Feet of the limping Dancers* (1987), *Toward the Aerial Zone* (1988), *Voices from Deep Water* (1997), *The Womb in the Heart*, 2002. He has also published a critical study; *Toward the kingdom of Woman and Man: The Works of Ngugi wa Thiongo* (1992), and *The Trumpet Parable: a play*, 1988. In 1988 and 2002 Professor Nwankwo won the **Association of Nigerian Authors Poetry prize** and in the year 2001, he was awarded the senior Fulbright Fellowship for scholarly research and teaching in Nigeria.

ISBN 9780979085826 | 198 pages | 216 x 140 mm | 2009 | African Heritage Press, Nigeria | Paperback | \$19.95/£15.95

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African Studies



African Studies in Geography from Below Edited by Michel Ben Arrous and Lazare Ki-Zerbo

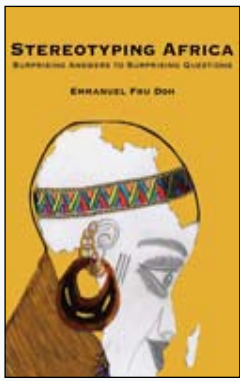
The doctrine of international relations (inter-state, indeed), territorial ideologies, the logic of autochthony and its ramifications, ethnic cleansing, are all hinged at different levels upon the same pseudo-fact: to every society a closed and exclusive territory demarcated by fixed and linear borders. This way of thinking, totally foreign to African societies for a long time, has generated today more contradictions than it can ever solve.

The authors of this book make a clear distinction between territory formation “from the top” as being a deliberate political project, and its formation “from below” as being a more diffused historical process which is determined by the scheme of antagonisms and compromises between social forces. In lieu of a stark opposition between “the top” and “below”, the authors unveil the interdependence and mutual influence which form the basis of a dual system within which legal formation -by the colonial authorities first, then by the postcolonial one- is confronted with a host of subaltern spatial dynamics, neglecting thereby the legitimacy which only they can provide.

As an essential read for anyone who is interested in the relationship between knowledge and power, this book offers stimulating perspectives on the issue of African unity and its epistemological and political challenges. It renews profoundly our approaches to human security, citizenship, borders and mobility.

ISBN 9782869782310 | 360 pages | 229 x 152 mm | 2009 | CODESRIA, Senegal | Paperback | \$34.95/£24.95

read more: [ABC](#) or [MSU Press](#)



Stereotyping Africa. *Surprising Answers to Surprising Questions* **Emmanuel Fru Doh**

Characteristically, Africans in any Western country are asked so many different questions about "Africa," as Westerners love to refer to the many countries that make up that huge continent, as if Africa were a single nation state. So one begins wondering why it is that Africans, on the other hand, do not refer to individual European countries as "Europe" simply, then the trends and consequences of stereotyping begin setting in just as one is getting used to being asked if Africa has a president, or if one can say something in African. It is some of these questions that Emmanuel Fru Doh has collected over the years and has attempted answering them

in an effort to shed some light on a continent that is in many ways like the rest of the world, when not better, but which so many love to paint as dark, backward, chaotic, and pathetic.

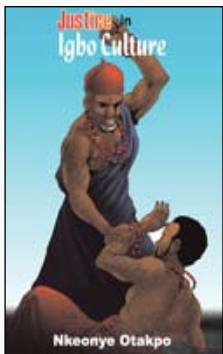
"Stereotyping – the production and consumption of frozen and often negative images and representations of others – are a feature of every society and encounter. This meticulous and well documented compilation of Western stereotypes about Africa, brings to the fore the element of power that gives life, visibility and legitimacy to the prejudices of some over those of others."

- Francis B. Nyamnjoh, Professor of Social Anthropology, University of Cape Town, South Africa

ISBN 9789956558957 | 214 pages | 216 x 140 mm | 2009 | Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon | Paperback | \$24.95/£18.95

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Anthropology



Justice in Igbo Culture **Nkeonye Otakpor**

There has existed the naïve assumption that until the unsolicited advent of colonialism, the so-called "noble and savage" tribes had no legal system worthy of attention. The Igbo people were not exempted from this assumption. Justice itself cannot be realized outside a system of law and its institutions. It is a system in which law is a vital aspect of man's culture and social existence; embodying the collective will of the community and binding the members of that community in a unity of purpose. In all of these, the exercise of reason is essential and indispensable. In the

face of the colonial and neocolonial assumption of the non-existence of law, the evidence on the ground suggests something totally different. If anything, that evidence shows that the assumption was an essential part of the ideology of colonialism and an important psychological armour which, in conjunction with the Bible and gun-powder, helped to bring about the physical, political, economic, and mental domination of non-Europeans.

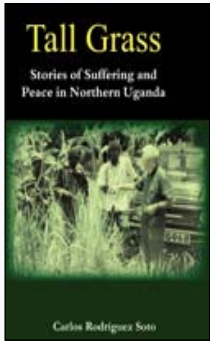
In this book, an attempt is made to elucidate the logical features of some fundamental concepts and phrases related to justice, dispute settlement, and the organization of life and work in Igbo communities in Aniocha north local government area of Delta State.

Professor Nkeonye Otakpor is in the Department of Philosophy, University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria

ISBN 9789788422037 | 156 pages | 216 x 140 mm | 2009 | Malthouse Press, Nigeria | Paperback | \$29.95/£19.95

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Biography/Autobiography/Memoir



Tall Grass. Stories of Suffering and Peace in Northern Uganda **Carlos Rodríguez Soto**

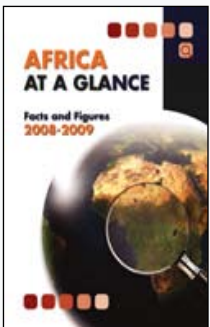
Tall Grass: Stories of Suffering and Peace in Northern Uganda is a personal story of a Spanish priest who was working in northern Uganda when a bizarre group that called itself The Lord's Resistance Army declared war on the government. Within a few years, the conflict had brought large scale suffering and misery to the region. Father Carlos was so pained by the situation that he decided to embark on a quest to find a solution to the problem. But first he had to undertake a tacit and cautious inquiry into the nature and causes of the misunderstanding between the two sides to the conflict. Next he had to find allies to work with in the search for a solution.

Father Carlos worked with Acholi Religious Leaders' Peace Initiative and the Justice and Peace Commission of Gulu Archdiocese. He was part of the efforts of northern Uganda's civil society, a peace movement that included traditional leaders, local politicians, religious leaders, media personalities as well as foreign diplomats, all of who could have some influence on the course of event. However, there were occasions in which the priest found himself in conflict with some of them, for different reasons. But Father Carlos would not listen to any of this because he was living in a theatre of horror in which he watched young children being abducted and being forced to join the rebels and young girls being forced to become rebels' concubines. So tormented was he by the magnitude of the human suffering he saw around him that he experienced psychological traumas that affected him deeply and required professional help. This book is Carlos' single minded determination to mobilise assistance for the abducted children and their families as well as for the hundreds of peasants who were driven into displaced people's camps by the war.

ISBN 9789970027330 | 286 pages | 216 x 140 mm | 2009 | Fountain Publishers, Uganda | Paperback | \$29.95/£19.95

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Economics and Development

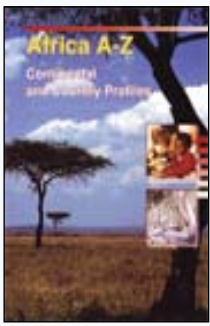


Africa At A Glance. Facts and Figures 2008-2009 **Edited by Elize van As and Pieter Esterhuysen**

Africa at a Glance, first published in 1970, is now in its fourteenth edition. It is a single volume compilation of critical, social, political, economic and geographical data on Africa providing an overview of these aspects of the continent.

ISBN 9780798302258 | 84 pages | 294 x 206 mm | Colour Illustrations, Colour Photographs and Maps | 2009 | Africa Institute of South Africa, South Africa | Paperback | \$24.95/£18.95

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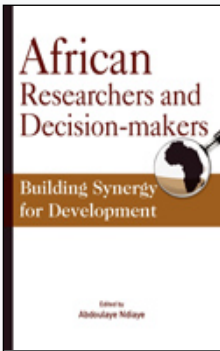
Africa A-Z. Continental and Country Profiles **Edited by Elize van As and Pieter Esterhuysen**

Africa is a vast continent whose population is fast approaching one billion and has more politically independent states than any other continent. Africa A-Z attempts to provide, in a concise manner, the facts for an elementary understanding of the continent and its complex issues. The book falls into two main sections. The five chapters in the first section focus on the continent as a whole, dealing with its physical and human diversity, its eventful history and Africans' struggle for economic survival.

The second main section contains profiles of 57 independent and non-independent countries, ranging from Algeria to Zimbabwe.

ISBN 9780798301992 | 372 pages | 296 x 210 mm | Colour Illustrations, Colour Photographs and Maps | 2008 | Africa Institute of South Africa, South Africa | Paperback | \$34.95/£24.95

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African Researchers and Decision-makers ***Building Synergy for Development*** **Edited by Abdoulaye Ndiaye**

For the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and its partners, the link between research and policy is of paramount importance in their goal to improve social, economic and environmental conditions in developing countries. The nature of the collaboration between researchers and decision-makers, however, is complex, multifaceted and often difficult to implement. Moreover, research is very often designed and carried out without regard for its potential users or beneficiaries.

How should research agendas be developed? What is the role of the private sector in developing research? Which actors are involved in knowledge production and utilization? How can the dialogue between researchers and decision-makers be improved?

This short and accessible book records the reflections, opinions and recommendations which emerged from six national workshops organised between 2004 and 2007 in West and Central Africa on the synergy between researchers and decision-makers.

Abdoulaye Ndiaye is a Senegalese expert and international consultant in development. He edited this book as a member and on behalf of the IDRC Council of Regional Advisors for West and Central Africa which organized the series of workshops throughout the sub-region.

ISBN 9782869782600 | 98 pages | 234 x 156 mm | 2009 | CODESRIA, Senegal | Paperback | \$19.95/£15.95

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Media and Mass Communication



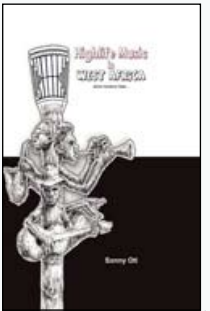
Unequal Peers. *The politics of discourse management in the social sciences* **Mpilo Pearl Sithole**

Peer review plays an important role in academic practice. By definition, it implies a frank and equal intellectual exchange between scholars with similar capabilities. But does this happen in practice? And what are the consequences? Among other things, peer review regulates who gets published in academic journals - and who doesn't. In this provocative book, the author examines whether the peer review process meets these expectations in practice. She does so by publishing three essays which she submitted to academic journals, and were rejected, together with comments by the (anonymous) reviewers, and their subsequent correspondence. In an accompanying analysis, she finds that, far from maintaining equality between reviewer and reviewed, the peer review process is dominated by scholars allied to Western models of knowledge production, who use their 'gateway' positions to marginalise and discourage African schools of thought. Trenchantly, she concludes that, in its current guise, peer review is encouraging 'dwarfed knowledge production', and hampering its transformation in South Africa and elsewhere.

ISBN 9780798302203 | 106 pages | 234 x 156 mm | 2009 | Africa Institute of South Africa, South Africa | Paperback | \$22.95/£16.95

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Music



Highlife Music in West Africa **Sonny Oti**

A posthumous publication *Highlife Music in West Africa* is an excursion into the origins and development of Highlife music in West Africa. Although highlife music belongs to the entertainment genre, it is essentially an urban music. Its dynamism does not lie in the aesthetics of its form and style, as a dance music relying almost totally on western musical instruments; it lies more in its song-texts. Critics evaluate it as a popular music genre, but fail to emphasize that its critical song-texts are the major forces guaranteeing its development and interplay with factors which contribute to the search for even political as well as economic, and national growth and stability in Africa.

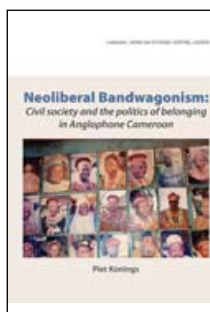
Highlife musicians may be referred to as modern African town-criers whose messages or song-texts, like drama and theatre texts, present not only Africa's culture but her social, economic and political problems. The presence of radicals and Pan-Africanists from the fifties in music has therefore lifted highlife musicians from the status of mere entertainers and nerve therapists to a more serious and responsible one, as African modern town-criers whose song-texts are communal messages, warning and counselling. Even, militant criticisms of the establishment are innovative. The musicians also alert the society on topical issues of significance as the press and the theatre do.

There is currently an appreciable transformation and "transfiguration" in highlife music. Its conventional dancers are giving way to audiences; because the highlife musicians preach political and social messages instead of the passion of dance in their audience. Thus, ears and the mind are now becoming more important, intellectually, than the sensual eyes and body ballroom motion.

ISBN 9789788422082 | 208 pages | 216 x 140 mm | 2009 | Malthouse Press, Nigeria | Paperback | \$24.95/£18.95

read more: [ABC](#) or [MSU Press](#)

Politics and International Affairs



Neoliberal Bandwagonism

Civil society and the politics of belonging in Anglophone Cameroon

Piet Konings

Civil society and empowerment have become buzz words in neoliberal development discourse. Yet many unanswered questions remain on the actual nature and configuration assumed by civil society in specific contexts. Typically, while neoliberals perceive civil-society organisations as vital intermediary channels for the successful implementation of desired economic and political reforms, they are inclined to blame

the current resurgence of the politics of belonging for the poor record of these reforms in Africa and elsewhere. This book rejects such notions and argues that the relationship between civil society and the politics of belonging is more complex in Africa than western donors and scholars are willing to admit. Konings argues that ethno-regional associations and movements are even more significant constituents of civil society in Africa than the conventional civil-society organisations that are often uncritically imposed or endorsed. He convincingly shows how the politics of belonging, so pervasive in Cameroon, and indeed much of Africa, during the current neoliberal economic and political reforms, has tended to penetrate the entire range of associational life. This calls for a critical re-appraisal of prevalent notions and assumptions about civil society in the interest of African reality.

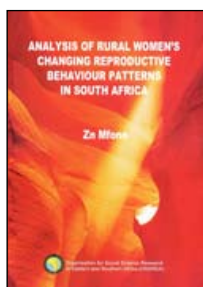
"Piet Konings has illuminated the Anglophone Cameroon experience for decades, from labour conditions to identity politics. The writings here connect his work and add that terrain to the broad sweep of contemporary African studies, and will guide all future scholarship on the region."

- Milton Krieger, Professor Emeritus, Western Washington University, USA

ISBN 9789956558230 | 274 pages | 244 x 170 mm | 2009 | Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon | Paperback | \$29.95/£19.95

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Sociology



Analysis of Changing Rural Women's Reproductive Behavior Patterns in South Africa

Zn Mfono

This report presents a description of the patterns of change in rural women's reproductive behaviour in South Africa over a period of 17 years extending from 1987-9 to 2004. The analyses were informed by the Programme of Action that was set out at the 1994 International Cairo Conference on Population and Development.

The Programme of Action has a 20-year implementation time period, and the year 2004 was halfway through the 20 years. The year 2004 is also 30 years since the introduction of South Africa's National Family Planning Programme in 1975, which advanced the health rationale for fertility regulation. It is also twenty years after the introduction of the Population Development Programme in 1985, which emphasized the demographic rationale for fertility regulation. It is finally the seventh year after the introduction of the Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act in 1997, which legalized pregnancy terminations under prescribed conditions, with emphasis on women's rights to choice. Five of South Africa's nine provinces, which have more than 50 per cent of their populations living in tribal areas, were included in the analyses.

ISBN 9789994455348 | 136 pages | 244 x 170 mm | 2009 | OSSREA, Ethiopia | Paperback | \$24.95/£18.95

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