

AFRICA

AFRICA

VOLUME 1

AFRICAN HISTORY AND
CULTURE BEFORE 1900

Second Edition

Edited by

Toyin Falola

and

Steven J. Salm

Carolina Academic Press
Durham, North Carolina

Copyright © 2019
Carolina Academic Press, LLC
All Rights Reserved

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Falola, Toyin, editor. | Salm, Steven J., 1966- editor.
Title: Africa. Volume 1, African history and culture before 1900 / [edited]
by Toyin Falola, Steven J. Salm.
Other titles: Africa (2019)
Description: Second edition. | Durham, North Carolina : Carolina Academic
Press, LLC, 2019. | Includes bibliographical references and index.
Identifiers: LCCN 2018059090 | ISBN 9781531012816 (alk. paper)
Subjects: LCSH: Africa—History—To 1884. | Africa—History—1884–1918. |
Africa—Civilization.
Classification: LCC DT20 .A61785 2019 | DDC 960--dc23
LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2018059090>

eISBN 978-1-5310-1282-3

Carolina Academic Press
700 Kent Street
Durham, North Carolina 27701
Telephone (919) 489-7486
Fax (919) 493-5668
www.cap-press.com

Printed in the United States of America

For Olabisi, Dolapo, Bisola, Oloruntoyin,
Susan, Sebastian, and Dominic

Contents

Preface and Acknowledgments	xi
List of Illustrations and Maps	xiii
Authors	xvii

PART A

INTRODUCTION TO THE CONTINENT

Chapter 1	Africa in History: Interpretations, Perspectives, and Methods	5
	<i>Adebayo Oyebadde</i>	
Chapter 2	Geography, Environmental Resources, and African Development	27
	<i>Fenda A. Akiwumi and William C. Barnett</i>	
Chapter 3	The Cradle of Humankind: Traditions of Origins and Archaeological Interpretations	53
	<i>Julius O. Adekunle</i>	

PART B

PEOPLES AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS TO 1800

Chapter 4	Bantu Expansion and Its Consequences	79
	<i>Funso Afolayan</i>	
Chapter 5	State Formations	105
	<i>Constanze Weise</i>	
Chapter 6	Acephalous Societies	135
	<i>Chidiebere Nwaubani</i>	
Chapter 7	Civilizations of the Upper Nile	157
	<i>Funso Afolayan</i>	
Chapter 8	North Africa	189
	<i>Joel E. Tishken and Allison P. Sellers</i>	
Chapter 9	The Horn of Africa	213
	<i>Charles G. Thomas</i>	
Chapter 10	East Africa	237
	<i>Charles G. Thomas</i>	
Chapter 11	Central Africa	257
	<i>Carla E. Klehm and Joel E. Tishken</i>	

Chapter 12	Southern Africa <i>Carla E. Klehm</i>	283
Chapter 13	West Africa <i>Uzoma S. Osuala, Jeremiah I. Dibua, and Funso Afolayan</i>	305
Chapter 14	Europe, Africa, and the Atlantic World <i>Adebayo Oyebade</i>	345

PART C
THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Chapter 15	North Africa in the Nineteenth Century <i>James Mokhiber</i>	373
Chapter 16	The Horn of Africa in the Nineteenth Century <i>Charles G. Thomas</i>	397
Chapter 17	West Africa in the Nineteenth Century <i>Tamba E. M'bayo</i>	421
Chapter 18	Southern Africa in the Nineteenth Century <i>Funso Afolayan</i>	449
Chapter 19	East and Central Africa in the Nineteenth Century <i>Charles G. Thomas</i>	479
Chapter 20	European Partition and Colonization of Africa <i>Apollos Okwuchi Nwauwa</i>	511

PART D
CULTURES AND INSTITUTIONS

Chapter 21	The Study of Cultures <i>Vik Bahl</i>	541
Chapter 22	Politics and Government <i>Saheed A. Adejumobi</i>	559
Chapter 23	Social Institutions <i>Austin M. Ahanotu</i>	573
Chapter 24	Gender <i>Christine Saidi</i>	599
Chapter 25	Education <i>Julius O. Adekunle</i>	629
Chapter 26	Indigenous Religions <i>Joel E. Tishken</i>	645
Chapter 27	Islam <i>Steven J. Salm</i>	669
Chapter 28	Christianity <i>Nimi Wariboko</i>	693
Chapter 29	Pastoralism <i>Toyin Falola and Mickie Mwanzia Koster</i>	711

Chapter 30	Health and Medicine <i>Matthew M. Heaton</i>	723
Chapter 31	Cities and Architecture <i>Abidemi B. Babalola</i>	745
Chapter 32	Art <i>dele jegede</i>	769
Chapter 33	Music <i>Steven J. Salm and Dennis M. Rathnaw</i>	797
Chapter 34	Oral and Written Literature <i>Steven J. Salm</i>	823
Index		841

Preface and Acknowledgments

This book introduces Africa to college students and to all readers interested in the history and cultures of the continent through the end of the nineteenth century. The chapters do not generalize; rather they reconstruct the history, cultures, and key institutions of many African societies during significant historical ages. The thirty-four chapters are written both to educate and to stimulate further discussion and research. The choice of topics is dictated both by relevance and by the need to satisfy classroom requirements.

The book is divided into four parts. Part A introduces readers to African historiography, geography, and interpretations of human origins. Part B includes discussions of great migrations, state formations, and regional histories of prominent kingdoms and outstanding events up to 1800. Part C looks at the history of the nineteenth century and provides more detail in individual chapters arranged by regions. It ends with a chapter on the changing relationship between Africa and Europe that redefined the history of Africa as it entered into the twentieth century. The fourteen chapters of Part D examine significant aspects of African cultures and institutions in the period before 1900. In this book, “culture” refers to the totality of the African experience. It includes all the ideas that Africans have evolved over time and, thus, understanding culture is essential to understanding a people and their history.

This revised edition merges two earlier volumes that addressed history and culture separately and covered Africa to 1885. Providing a single volume emphasizes to the reader that history and culture are inseparable and offers enhanced opportunities to synthesize information from different chapters. By extending the timeline to 1900, this volume accentuates the continuity of history and culture; rather than focus on the European Berlin Conference of 1884–85, it underscores African agency in shaping all events and ideologies before and after that period.

This volume updates the original edition with new material and a number of new chapters. Of the thirty four chapters, twelve represent entirely new approaches, fifteen have been revised significantly, and the remaining seven received only minor editing changes. Shaded text boxes were added to every chapter to highlight significant people or events outside of the narrative.

Each chapter is capable of standing on its own and, taken as a whole, the book offers flexibility to instructors who may want to utilize chapter themes in a different order or choose, for example, to read chapters with a common regional focus and/or cultural emphasis in mind to enhance knowledge and understanding. Each section begins with an overview that provides a summary of the main issues and ideas. Each chapter begins with an introduction of the main themes and ends with a set of review questions that test both broad and specific knowledge as well as a list of recommended readings for those who wish to pursue individual subjects in greater depth.

We are indebted to all of the contributors who were selected based on their ability as teachers to explain history to college students and beginners, as well as their skill in synthesizing a large body of data and ideas. There is a commitment on their part to understand African history and cultures and present them in a readable form for a wide audience. We are grateful to all the instructors, students, and other scholars who offered excellent suggestions in revising the original volumes into what you have before you today. The potential topics and issues are many, and no single volume can treat all of them in a comprehensive manner. What this volume accomplishes is an overview of the essence of African history and cultures by focusing on prominent themes. We hope that it provides a springboard for further investigation.

Toyin Falola & Steven J. Salm
The University of Texas at Austin
Xavier University of Louisiana

List of Illustrations and Maps

Figure 1-1:	Map: Portuguese Exploration of West Africa	12
Figure 2-1:	Map: African Topography	29
Figure 2-2:	The True Size of Africa	31
Figure 2-3:	Mount Kilimanjaro	33
Figure 2-4:	Map: African Climates	34
Figure 2-5:	Young Oxherds in Kenya	44
Figure 2-6:	Map: The Four Major African Language Groups	46
Figure 2-7:	A Goods Train on the Side of the Rift Valley in Kenya	47
Figure 2-8:	Wesselton Diamond Mine, South Africa, 1911	48
Figure 3-1:	Map: Archaeological Sites for Discoveries in Human Evolution	54
Figure 3-2:	Evolutionary Tree	60
Figure 3-3:	Late Acheulian and Middle Stone Age Tools	62
Figure 3-4:	Map: The Spread of Iron Working in Africa	64
Figure 3-5:	Map: Some Important African Archaeological Sites	66
Figure 4-1:	Map: Bantu Expansion	84
Figure 4-2:	Map: Diffusion of Bantu Languages	88
Figure 4-3:	Urewe Pottery	89
Figure 5-1:	Ita Yemoja, Ife. Late 13th–early 15th Century	125
Figure 6-1:	Map: Some Centers of Igboland	141
Figure 7-1:	Map: The Ancient Egyptian Empire	159
Figure 7-2:	The Rosetta Stone, 196 BCE	161
Figure 7-3:	The Colossus of Ramses II, Abu Simbel, Egypt	167
Figure 7-4:	Pharaoh Tutankhamun from the Inner Coffin of the tomb of Tutankhamun, Valley of Kings, Thebes, 1342 BCE	169
Figure 7-5:	Queen Nefertiti	174
Figure 7-6:	The Sphinx, Al-Jizah, Egypt	175
Figure 8-1:	Map: Carthaginian Empire	190
Figure 8-2:	Female Musician from the Punic Necropolis of Borj Jdid, Carthage, Tunisia, fourth century BCE	193
Figure 8-3:	Stele from the Tophet of Carthage, third century BCE	195
Figure 8-4:	Map: Trans-Saharan Routes and Centers	197
Figure 8-5:	An Oasis of the Mزاب Valley, Algeria	198

Figure 8-6:	Horse and Two-Wheeled Chariot, Cave Painting of Tassili n'Ajjer, Sahara Desert	201
Figure 8-7:	Map: Fatimid Power	204
Figure 8-8:	Map: Ottoman Empire	208
Figure 8-9:	Print of Tripoli in the Late Seventeenth Century	210
Figure 9-1:	Stone Church of St. George at Lalibela, Ethiopia	215
Figure 9-2:	Map: Solomonid Ethiopia in the Fifteenth Century	227
Figure 10-1:	Map: Indian Ocean Trading Networks	242
Figure 10-2:	Map: East African Coast, 1000 CE	245
Figure 11-1:	Stool, Luba People, Congo	264
Figure 11-2:	Village in Manyema	267
Figure 11-3:	Loango Nobleman	276
Figure 11-4:	Kongo nkisi	277
Figure 11-5:	Loango King	279
Figure 12-1:	Mopane Scrub Forest in Central Botswana	284
Figure 12-2:	Side Profile of the Iron Age Trade Center of Bosutswe	296
Figure 12-3:	Stone Walls at the Archaeological Site of Khubu la Dintša	297
Figure 12-4:	Glass beads Originating from the Middle East and India	298
Figure 12-5:	Tsodilo Hills, Botswana	301
Figure 13-1:	Map: The Western and Central Sudan, ca. Eighth to Seventeenth Centuries	306
Figure 13-2:	Map: The West African Forest	316
Figure 13-3:	The Oba of Benin in Procession	318
Figure 13-4:	Bronze Plaque from the Palace of the Benin Obas	319
Figure 13-5:	Ivory Salt Cellar in the Benin Style, Nigeria, sixteenth century	319
Figure 13-6:	Map: Benin Empire, 1800	322
Figure 13-7:	Map: Oyo Empire, 1789	327
Figure 13-8:	An Asante Group, Posed in Front of Their Compound, Kumasi, Ghana, ca. 1900	337
Figure 13-9:	Map: Asante Empire, 1800	340
Figure 14-1:	Map: Atlantic Islands	349
Figure 14-2:	Elmina Castle	353
Figure 14-3:	West African Slave Kingdoms	356
Figure 14-4:	Capture and Sale of a Slave, Wood Engraving	357
Figure 14-5:	Major Slave Trading Regions	359
Figure 14-6:	Stowage of a British Slave Ship, ca. 1788	361
Figure 15-1:	Map: North Africa in the Nineteenth Century	374
Figure 15-2:	Map: The Mahdist State	379
Figure 15-3:	Abd al-Qadir in Cairo	382
Figure 16-1:	Map: Kingdom of Abyssinia, or Ethiopia	398
Figure 16-2:	Emperor Menelik II with Haile Selassie, ca. 1920–1921	417
Figure 17-1:	Map: The Nineteenth Century Jihad Movements	425
Figure 17-2:	Map: The Sokoto Caliphate and Borno Under Al-Kanemi	426
Figure 17-3:	Map: The Sokoto Caliphate	428

Figure 17-4:	Map: Masina at Its Apogee	430
Figure 17-5:	Map: Early Settlements of Freetown and Monrovia	436
Figure 18-1:	Zulu Chief, ca. 1880–1905	452
Figure 18-2:	Zulu Temple at Maryloa, Zululand, South Africa	454
Figure 18-3:	Map: Sotho and Nguni Movements in the Nineteenth Century	456
Figure 18-4:	Map: Boer Expansion in South Africa, 1750–1803	465
Figure 19-1:	Map: East Africa in the Nineteenth Century	480
Figure 19-2:	Seyyid Said	481
Figure 19-3:	Map: The Swahili Coast	482
Figure 19-4:	View of Zanzibar, ca. 1857	483
Figure 19-5:	Map: East African Trade Routes in the Nineteenth Century	489
Figure 19-6:	Tippu Tib's Captives Being Sold into Slavery	490
Figure 19-7:	Map: Central Africa in the Nineteenth Century	494
Figure 19-8:	Fort Jesus, Mombasa, Kenya	502
Figure 20-1:	David Livingstone	513
Figure 20-2:	Henry Morton Stanley in Africa	514
Figure 20-3:	Map: European Territorial Claims in Africa, 1879	524
Figure 20-4:	Map: European Territorial Claims in Africa, 1905	529
Figure 23-1:	Kinship Signs	574
Figure 23-2:	Unilineal Descent	576
Figure 23-3:	Family Compound	579
Figure 26-1:	Zebola Initiate Outlined in White to Aid Purification	650
Figure 26-2:	Sango Wand, Yoruba, Nigeria	654
Figure 26-3:	Nganga Botoli Laiem, a Priest	662
Figure 27-1:	Map: The Penetration of Islam into Africa	670
Figure 27-2:	Map: Islamic Cultural Zones	672
Figure 27-3:	Map: Islamic State Expansion	673
Figure 27-4:	Map: Major Trade Routes	677
Figure 27-5:	Map: States of Sudan and Guinea	680
Figure 27-6:	Exterior of the Sankore Mosque	688
Figure 28-1:	Map: Early Christian Centers in Africa	697
Figure 29-1:	Pastoralism System in Africa	712
Figure 29-2:	A Pastoralist and His Livestock. Mwanzia Koster, June 2014, Nakuru, Kenya	718
Figure 29-3:	The Pastoral Landscape by Mwanzia Koster, June 2014, Nakuru, Kenya	719
Figure 31-1:	The Great Zimbabwe, Excavations of the Enclosure	746
Figure 31-2:	View of the Conical Tower of the Great Zimbabwe	748
Figure 32-1:	Palette of Narmer, Hierakonpolis, 1st Dynasty, c. 3000 BCE	776
Figure 32-2:	Bust of Queen Nefertiti	781
Figure 32-3:	Nok Culture Head, Jemaa, Nigeria	782
Figure 32-4:	Roped Pot on a Stand, Igbo-Ukwu	785
Figure 32-5:	Standing Figure of an Oni	786
Figure 32-6:	Uhumwelao, Bronze Head	789

Figure 32-7:	Mother and Child, Jenne People, Mali	792
Figure 33-1:	Wodaabe Men during a Dance	806
Figure 33-2:	Slit Drum, Lobala People, Congo	811
Figure 33-3:	West African Kora	815

Authors

Saheed A. Adejumobi is Associate Professor in the History Department and Global African Studies Program at Seattle University. He has degrees from the University of Lagos, the University of Oregon, and The University of Texas at Austin where he was awarded his Ph.D. He has taught at The University of Texas at Austin, Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, and Zhejiang Normal University in Jinhua, China. He specializes in African and African American History, and African Diaspora intellectual and cultural traditions.

Julius O. Adekunle, Ph.D., is Professor of African History in the Department of History and Anthropology, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, New Jersey. He is co-editor of *Governance and Leadership in Nigeria: Prospects and Challenges* (Goldline and Jacobs Publishing, 2016), the author of *Culture and Customs of Rwanda* (Greenwood Press, 2007), and *Politics and Society in Nigeria's Middle Belt: Borgu and the Emergence of a Political Identity* (Africa World Press, 2004). His research areas include politics, religion, culture, and ethnicity.

Funso Afolayan holds a Ph.D. in African History from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Nigeria (1991). He has held a number of research and teaching positions, including ones at Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria; Department of Religions, Amherst College; and in the Department of History and African and Afro-American Studies Program, Washington University in St. Louis. He currently teaches history and African studies at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, where he also serves as the Director of the Religious Studies, and the Africana and African-American Studies programs. In addition to several book chapters and research publications in journals, he is co-author of *Yoruba Sacred Kingship: A Power Like That of the Gods*, (Washington and London: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1996) and author of *Culture and Customs of South Africa* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2004). He recently served as the President of the Nigerian Studies Association (NSA) and is the founding editor of its journal, *Journal of Nigeria Studies* (JNS).

Austin M. Ahanotu obtained his Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles. He was a professor of History and served as the Chairperson of the History Department at California State University, Stanislaus. He taught for more than twenty years as a college teacher in both the United States and Nigeria. He was also the author of many articles and books. Dr. Ahanotu died in 2014.

Fenda A. Akiwumi is Associate Professor in the Geography, Environmental Science and Policy program, School of Geosciences, University of South Florida. She teaches courses in Geographical Perspectives of Sub-Saharan Africa, Global Conservation, Environmental Policy and Sustainable Development. She co-edited a book on teaching ethnic geography and has published papers on African land resources development, including conflicts, sustainable livelihoods, cultural diversity and perception in resource exploitation, and socio-culturally sensitive policy and legislative reform in journals such as *Antipode*, and *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*. She received her Ph.D. in geography from Texas State University and conducts research in Sierra Leone.

Abidemi B. Babalola is a Fellow in the Anthropology Department at Harvard University. He was a McMillan-Stewart Fellow at the Hutchins Center for African and African-American Research, Harvard University, and a visiting researcher at the University College London-Qatar. He specializes in African Archaeology and pre-colonial history with special interest in craft specialization in complex societies, early urbanism, and trade. He has published several journal articles and conducted fieldwork in the United States, Tanzania, and Nigeria. He received his PhD from Rice University, Houston, and his M.A and B.A from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He is the Director of the archaeological project on early glass production in Ile-Ife, Nigeria.

Vik Bahl received his Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Texas at Austin, with a focus on ethnic and post-colonial literatures, cultural studies, and social movements. He is faculty in the English division at Green River College (Auburn, WA); co-chair of the Green River Diversity & Equity Council (GDEC); and co-founder of Diversity & Equity in Hiring & Professional Development (DEHPD), a statewide organization that addresses the low numbers of underrepresented staff and faculty in the community college system. He formerly served on the board of University Beyond Bars (UBB), a Seattle nonprofit that provides higher education to prisoners, and is currently on the boards of the Toyin Falola Center for the Study of Africa (TFCSA) and the Center for Convivial Research and Autonomy (CCRA). He is co-author of *Scoundrels of Deferral: Poems to Redeem Reflection*. His current book-in-progress is entitled “Cultures of Desire: Suturing the Ruptures of Modernity.”

William C. Barnett is Associate Professor and Chair of History at North Central College in Naperville, Illinois. He specializes in environmental history, and he teaches courses on U.S. History, African History, and Environmental Studies. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, his M.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, and his B.A. from Yale University.

Jeremiah I. Dibua is Professor of History and Coordinator of Graduate Programs in History and African American Studies at Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland. He has published extensively on modern African history, politics and economy, and on the political economy of development. He is the author of *Modernization and the Crisis of Development in Africa: The Nigerian Experience* (2006) and *Development and Diffusionism: Looking Beyond Neopatrimonialism in Nigeria, 1962–1985* (2013).

Toyin Falola is the Jacob and Frances Sanger Mosiker Chair in the Humanities and a Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Texas at Austin. He is also a Fellow of the Historical Society of Nigerian Academy of Letters. He has received numerous awards and honors, including the Jean Holloway Award for Teaching Excellence, the Texas Exes Teaching Award, and the Ibn Khaldun Distinguished Award for Research Excellence, and the Distinguished Fellow, Ibadan Cultural Group. Falola has published numerous books in African and Pan-African History. For his singular and distinguished contribution to the study of Africa, his students and colleagues have presented him with three Festschriften—two edited by Adebayo Oyeade, *The Transformation of Nigeria: Essays in Honor of Toyin Falola*, and *The Foundation of Nigeria: Essays in Honor of Toyin Falola*, and one edited by Akin Ogundiran, *Pre-Colonial Nigeria: Essays in Honor of Toyin Falola*. His award-winning memoir, *A Mouth Sweeter than Salt*, is published by the University of Michigan Press.

Matthew M. Heaton is an Associate Professor in the Department of History at Virginia Tech. His research interests are in the history of health and illness, migration, and globalization in Africa with particular emphasis on Nigeria. He is the author of *Black Skin, White Coats: Nigerian Psychiatrists, Decolonization, and the Globalization of Psychiatry* and co-author of *A History of Nigeria*.

dele jegede earned his BA in Fine Arts from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Indiana University, Bloomington. He was the Art Editor at the *Daily Times*, one of Africa's leading newspapers, before joining the faculty of the University of Lagos in 1977, where he became Director of the Center for Cultural Studies. He was a Fulbright Visiting Professor at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA, from 1987–1988. In 1993, he joined the faculty at Indiana State University and served as Chair of the Department of Art from 2001 to 2005. Jegede also served as Chair of the Department of Art at Miami University from 2005–2010 and continues to teach art history. He has curated major exhibitions on contemporary African art and published extensively in the field. His *Encyclopedia of African American Artists* was published by Greenwood in 2009. An edited volume on his work as scholar, artist, cartoonist and art activist, with contributions by seventeen scholars on art and allied fields, was published in November 2012.

Carla Klehm is a Research Affiliate at Washington University in St. Louis, specializing in African archaeology. With the support of the National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Geographic Society, and Wenner-Gren Foundation, she directs multidisciplinary projects that span from the outskirts of the earliest cities in southern Africa during the last millennium to mortuary assemblages from East African megalithic monuments 5,000 years ago. She received her PhD from the University of Texas at Austin in 2013, with fieldwork in Botswana, Kenya, and Ethiopia. Her specializations include inequality, climate change, and global connections in the precolonial era.

Mickie Mwanzia Koster is an Associate Professor of History in Africa and the African Diaspora at the University of Texas located in Tyler, Texas in the United States. She has a M.A. and Ph.D. in History from Rice University. She teaches a variety of un-

dergraduate and graduate courses specializing in African histories and historiography. She is the faculty advisor for the Phi Alpha Theta Historical Honor Society. She regularly conducts field and archival research in Africa and presents her research at conferences nationally and internationally. Additionally, she has published in peer reviewed journal articles, book chapters, dictionaries, encyclopedias, proceedings, and reviews on Kenya, Africa and the African Diaspora. Her manuscript, *The Power of the Oath: The Making of Mau Mau in Kenya, 1952–1960* examines nationalism, ethnicity, and gender by exploring radicalized ritual ceremonies used during the Mau Mau war. She is also the co-author of *Hip Hop and Social Change in Africa: Ni Wakati* and co-editor of the two volume book series entitled, *Kenya at Fifty: Challenges and Prospects since Independence*.

Tamba E. M'bayo is an Associate Professor at West Virginia University and teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in African History. He obtained a Ph.D. from Michigan State University, specializing in the colonial and postcolonial history of Francophone West Africa. His first monograph, *Muslim Interpreters in Colonial Senegal, 1850–1920*, explored the lives and careers of indigenous interpreters as cultural powerbrokers and producers of knowledge. His research for a second book, for which he spent two months in Sierra Leone (2016), his birthplace, and a month in England (2017), traces Sierra Leone's history of epidemic episodes from 1787 to the 2013 Ebola outbreak.

James Mokhiber is Associate Professor of History at the University of New Orleans, where he teaches African, French colonial, and world history and serves as the coordinator of the Michael Mizell-Nelson Digital History Lab. A former Fulbright Scholar to Tunisia, he holds degrees in history from Stanford University, the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies, and Johns Hopkins University.

Chidiebere Nwaubani taught in the Department of History at the University of Colorado at Boulder, the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, and Imo State University, Okigwe, Nigeria. He received degrees from the Universities of Ilorin, Ibadan and the University of Toronto. A recipient of many academic awards and distinctions, he was a Visiting Fellow of the British Academy and has published in several journals on subjects including the philosophy of history, history of the Igbo, British decolonization in Africa, and the political economy of contemporary Africa.

Apollos Okwuchi Nwauwa is Professor of History at Bowling Green State University, Ohio, USA. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. from Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, with teaching and research expertise in African history and African Diaspora studies. Nwauwa has authored and co-edited six books including *Imperialism, Academe and Nationalism: Britain and University Education for Africans* (1997), *Against All Odds: The Igbo Experience in Postcolonial Nigeria* (2011), *Nigerian Political Leader: Visions, Actions and Legacies* (2015), as well as *Governance and Leadership in Nigeria: Prospects and Challenges* (2016), and over 30 refereed pieces internationally. He is the Editor of *OFO: Journal of Transatlantic Studies* and also serves on the board of several journals and agencies within and outside Nigeria.

Uzoma S. Osuala, Ph.D. holds his degrees in History and International Studies from the prestigious University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He has taught courses in African, European and American history at A-Level programs at Doyen Academy and Renaissance University in Enugu, Nigeria. Presently, he lectures at Federal University Lokoja where he teaches courses on historiography, African, and American history. He has published a book and written a number of articles on Igbo and larger Nigerian history. His interest lies in Business history, a sub-specialization of Economic history.

Adebayo Oyebade is Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History, Political Science, Geography, and Africana Studies, at Tennessee State University, Nashville, where he also teaches courses in African and African Diaspora history. He has written extensively in these areas in books and other publications. The latest of his nine published books is *The New African Diaspora in the United States: Identities and Homeland Connections*, (Routledge, 2017), co-edited with Toyin Falola. He obtained his Ph.D. from Temple University in Philadelphia, and is the recipient of a number of scholarly awards including the Fulbright.

Dennis M. Rathnaw holds a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from the University of Texas at Austin. His primary research interests include the interaction between local politics and global media in the production of African popular music, most notably bikutsi in Cameroon. He has taught courses in African musical thought, popular culture, media, film and globalization. He is an accomplished performer and has toured extensively with various African music groups in the United States and abroad.

Christine Saidi is a Professor of African and World History at Kutztown University. She has conducted research in Somalia, Rome, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Saidi has authored many scholarly articles, a book, coauthored a book, and is currently writing a textbook on the history of African women.

Steven J. Salm holds the Alumni Class of 1957 Endowed Professorship in the Humanities at Xavier University of Louisiana where he also serves as the Department Chair of History and the Division Chair of Fine Arts and Humanities. He teaches courses in African history, African popular culture, and the Black Atlantic World and has authored and co-edited six books focusing on African urban history, culture, and globalization. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin.

Allison P. Sellers received her M.A. in History from the University of Central Florida. Her graduate work focused on the intersection of race and religion in the colonial Black Atlantic World.

Charles G. Thomas is an Associate Professor at the United States Air Command and Staff College and serves as the Director of Strategy and Security Studies Curriculum for the eSchool of Graduate Professional Military Education at Air University. Prior to this he was the director for the African history curriculum at the United States Military Academy at West Point. His primary research interests are in the political and military history of East Africa and the Horn of Africa and he has published extensively on the military history of the continent.

Joel E. Tishken earned his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in 2002. He was a professor of African and world history from 2002–2015, with a specialty in African Christianities. He is the author of *Isaiah Shembe's Prophetic Uhlanga: The Worldview of the Nazareth Baptist Church in Colonial South Africa* (2013) and a dozen articles and chapters on African and world religions. Tishken is currently in training to become a Unitarian Universalist minister.

Nimi Wariboko is the Walter G. Muelder Professor of Social Ethics and Chair of Philosophy, Theology, and Ethics at Boston University School of Theology. He is also on the faculty of the Graduate Division of Religious Studies and Questrom School of Business of the same university. The five pillars of his scholarship are economic ethics, Christian social ethics, African social traditions, Pentecostal studies, and continental philosophy. The structure of his creative body of work is characterized by rigorous interweaving of original insights from each of these fields. He has won several awards for his academic excellence and has published over twenty books.

Constanze Weise is Assistant Professor of History at Henderson State University in Arkansas. She received her Ph.D. in African history from UCLA and has taught African, Middle Eastern and World History at various liberal arts colleges and universities in the United States. Her research focuses on pre-19th century and early colonial cultural and political history of West Africa with special emphasis on the intersection of politics and religion as well as urbanization. Her research has been supported by various grants and fellowships from UCLA, the Institute of Historical Research at the University of London, the German Research Foundation and the DAAD. Her work has appeared in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes dedicated to African history and methods, African art history, linguistics and anthropology. She also contributed original video-footage and images of ancestral masquerades from her field research in central Nigeria to the international touring exhibition curated by the UCLA Fowler Museum and the *Musée du quai Branly*, Paris, titled "Central Nigeria Unmasked: Arts of the Benue River Valley."